



# TALON

N E W S M A G A Z I N E

## Homecoming: Formal Launch Of Max Rants

Avila University joins  
Katrina relief effort

Avila Joins Facebook



# Campus OCTOBER

10/1 Homecoming Dance 8-12pm  
In the Quad  
10/7 Open Gym 8-11pm  
Mabee Fieldhouse sponsored by Intramurals  
10/12-16 Fall Break  
10/27 Spades Tournament 6-8pm  
Mabee Fieldhouse sponsored by Intramurals  
10/31 Halloween Party 5-7pm  
Marian Dinning Hall sponsored by GAP



Thornhill Gallery  
September 30-October 28<sup>th</sup>  
Celeste Marble  
Opening September 30, 5p-8p  
Friday  
October 30-November 4<sup>th</sup>  
High School invitational  
October 30 Reception 2p-4p  
Sunday  
November 11-December 16  
Eric Bashor  
Opening November 11, 5p-8p  
Friday  
January 20-February 20  
Scott Anderson  
Opening January 20, 5p-8p,  
Friday  
February 24-March 24  
Jim Gubar  
Opening February 24, 5p-8p  
Friday  
March 31-April 28  
All Women One Word  
Opening March 31, 5p-8p Friday  
May 5-May 11  
Senior Show  
Opening May 5, 5p-8p Friday

First Lady Suite by Michael John  
Lachiusa: September 29, 30, October 1, 8  
p.m.;

October 2, 2 p.m. This musical comedy  
looks at the relationships of some of the  
most treasured First Ladies ever to grace  
the White House.

As You Like It by William Shakespeare:  
November 17, 18, 19, 8 p.m.;

November 20, 2 p.m.- A classic comedic  
tale of love and the obstacles and situations  
that ensue.

The Grey Zone by Tim Blake Nelson:  
February 23, 24, 25, 8 p.m.;

February 26, 2 p.m.-The challenging  
drama about the tragedies and experiences  
of the Holocaust.

Elton John and Tim Rice's Aida: April  
27, 28, 29, 8 p.m.;

April 30, 2 p.m.-The hit Broadway  
musical of a forbidden love that transcends  
through generations.

## Editorial Policy

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TALON News Magazine encourages letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and must include the writer's name, address, and telephone number for verification. Letters can be mailed to TALON News Magazine Editor, Avila University, 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO. 64145, or may be submitted via e-mail at Talon@avila.edu. Please keep letters to 500 words or less. TALON News Magazine reserves the right to edit letters for reasons of space, clarity, or inappropriate language.

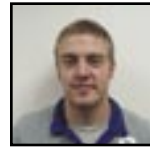
TALON News Magazine

Avila University - 11901 Wornall Road - Kansas City, Missouri 64145

Talon@avila.edu www.avila.edu/talon

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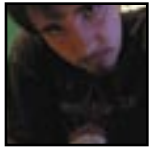
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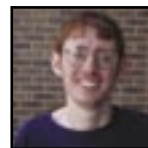
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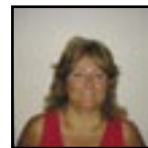
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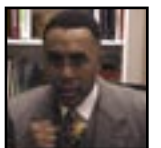
This Could  
Be You



This Could  
Be You



This Could  
Be You



Joseph Snorgrass  
Faculty Advisor



# Hurricane Katrina Knocks Avila

Chris Campbell  
Staff Writer

Hurricane Katrina has affected every American's life, unfortunately some much more than others. Katrina was the most destructive tropical cyclone to hit the United States in historic times. It caused extensive damage to the coastal regions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama on August 29, 2005. Katrina's death toll just recently eclipsed 1,000. Over a million people were displaced and the hurricane has left an estimated five million people without power. This tragedy has shaken the world and that includes our campus.

You may wonder what you can do to help. There is plenty for faculty and students at Avila to help with. Thirty-one victims of Hurricane Katrina were flown into Kansas City on September 2, and are being cared for at Children's Mercy Hospital. Avila has raised an estimated \$1000 to give to the victim's families. This will give each family the opportunity to obtain the necessities they are lacking.

As part of the Champions of Character Program, the Athletics Department is taking disaster relief donations for hurricane victims. Personal care, infant, first aid, and other items are being collected to be delivered to Heart to Heart. Heart to Heart is one of many programs collecting for Hurricane Katrina relief. A trailer of essentials is currently being gathered until September 30, 2005. Clothes and food are not being collected, however bottled water is needed desperately. Contact JoAnn Immele in the Athletic Department to help.

"Personal care, infant, first aid, and other items are being delivered to Heart to Heart to help the cause," she said.

It is essential that donations and help are provided to Hurricane Katrina victims in any way possible. With this many people in need, it's essential that they are helped.

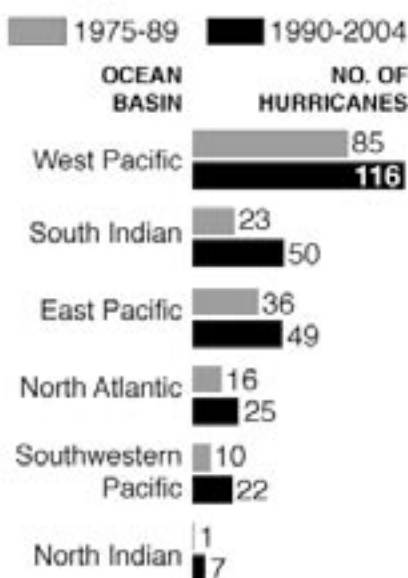
"Avila students and faculty are doing all they can do to help out under these devastating circumstances," junior Isis Dieguez said.

Everyone on campus should meet the challenge and help in any way they can.

## Growing storms

In the last 15 years, the number of large hurricanes has increased in all ocean basins compared to the previous 15 years.

### Category 4 and 5 hurricanes

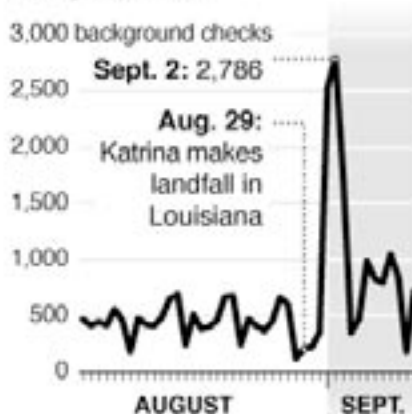


SOURCE: Science

AP

## More sought guns in wake of storm

There was a sharp increase in the number of criminal history background checks on prospective gun buyers in Louisiana in the days immediately following Hurricane Katrina, when widespread looting was being reported.



SOURCE: FBI

AP

## Lessons to be learned from Katrina

In the wake of the government's response to Hurricane Katrina, officials are looking at ways to avoid mistakes in a future disaster.

RESPONSE	COORDINATION	PLANNING	COMMUNICATION
Complaints that the federal government was too slow to assist affected areas prompted a review of how the requests are handled.	First responders can become disaster victims too; a second wave of assistance should be dispatched sooner, with more urgency.	Officials are previewing plans and pledging more frequent, realistic evacuation drills; some looking for ways to identify anyone likely to be bypassed in an evacuation.	Chaos after the storm showed need for a system to enable emergency personnel to talk to one other and different levels of government in a crisis.

## Opening in stages

Mayor Ray Nagin announced Thursday that areas of New Orleans will begin reopening on Monday amid progress in restoring electricity and water service. Government tests revealed the city's air is safe to breathe. District reopening dates and previous population figures

AP



SOURCES: NOAA; FEMA

AP

## Avila Welcomes Katrina Victims

Brittnay Strelluf  
Contributing writer

Losing the opportunity to pursue your dreams would devastate anybody. The dreams that every college student has of walking across the stage and receiving their degree. Imagine having that dream shattered. For the students whose schools have been devastated by Hurricane Katrina, those dreams have been shattered.

Like many colleges, Avila University is reaching out to those who have had their college career affected by Hurricane Katrina. The executive committee of Avila made the decision to admit late students who plan on continuing to pursue their education into Avila. Sister Marie Harris spoke on behalf of the Executive Board Committee. Half a dozen or so inquirees have contacted Avila. Sr. Harris added, "We expect the Avila Students to give the same warm welcome they would give any student."

According to Sr. Harris, many of the students have inquired are from Tulane University. "They have been totally devastated. They've lost everything," she said.

Sr. Harris explained, "The best thing we could do was to open our door to these students."

The Executive Board plans on accommodating new students by "waiving the admissions materials and working

with students on a case by case basis for financial need."

"We respond to the needs of the neighbor," said Sr. Harris.

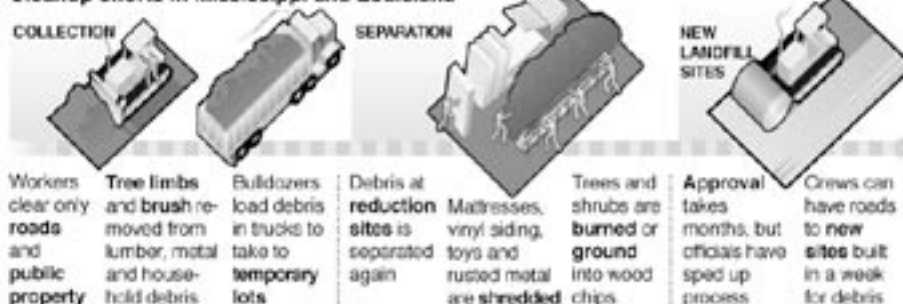
Sophomore Whitney Wegman is certainly taking this philosophy to heart. She will be traveling to the hurricane disaster site with The Red Cross to assist with the relief effort. Wegman's work as a lifeguard has qualified her to handle medical emergencies. "This literally fell into my lap," Wegman said. "My mother is a pediatric nurse and she asked if I wanted to go along."

The disaster struck Wegman in a rather personal manner. Hurricane Katrina occurred just after a series of events in her life that affected her in a profound way. She has visited the city and actually planned to go there again before the hurricane occurred. "I don't know yet where they are going to send us. I don't know what my assignment is. I've spoken to all of my professors and all of them have been very supportive of me going on this effort," she added.

Many people want to be remembered, they want to help others. Too often, however, these people pass up the opportunity to actually serve those in need. The disaster in New Orleans will continue to affect the lives of millions of people for a long period of time. Perhaps this is an opportunity to fulfill that desire to be a hero.

## Moving storm debris

### Cleanup efforts in Mississippi and Louisiana



SOURCES: FEMA, Army Corps of Engineers

AP



## Voting Rights Act Anniversary

Jeremy Gleeson  
Creative Director

Many of you probably do not know what happened on Aug. 6, 1965. For those of you who don't, here's a quick history lesson; President Lyndon Johnson out of public protest signed the Voting Rights Act (VRA). What the VRA changed was the power of the government to direct the voter registration and election in many southern counties. Despite the Fifteenth Amendment (barring states from denying citizen's right to vote on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude), many black men and women were being denied the right to vote. Many of these voter registration boards used two methods to legally keep African Americans from voting.

Introduced between 1889 and 1910, was poll taxes this was a general way to tax votes. This was levied on every person in the community, if you could not pay; you were not eligible to vote. Board officials, knowing the poverty of the black community, were successful by keeping poor African Americans and whites from the booths.

The other, unfair tactic was literacy requirements. Tests were administered to whites and blacks alike (in separate rooms of course) and their purpose was to determine the applicant was competent enough to vote. Some tests had the person

copy down a piece of the constitution dictated to them by the County Registrar, clearly read aloud for whites and quickly mumbled for blacks. A few states went even further by saying people could not even take the test unless they were vouched by an existing registered voter. Even whites that were sympathetic were not willing to accept the social exclusion that was promised to them.

In Alabama, there was no method for challenging the Board of Registrars; they would decide whether or not a candidate passed in secret. Some places even resorted to giving the names of black applicants to local White Citizens Councils or Ku Klux Klan groups to present physical violence to them if they chose to vote. At the height of the abuse these people banded together for what came to be known as the Selma to Montgomery marches. The first gathering became known as Bloody Sunday when state troopers attacked the demonstrators on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama with tear gas, billy clubs, and bull whips.

On the 40th anniversary of the VRA Atlanta, Georgia welcomed the tens of thousands of people who gathered together to honor the memory of those who died and to rally support for the extension of the law which expires in 2007. For more information and to get yourself educated about the Voting Rights Act go to: [www.democracynow.org](http://www.democracynow.org).



The exhibition The African American Odyssey: A Quest for Full Citizenship, showcases the incomparable African American collections of the Library of Congress. Displaying more than 240 items, including books, government documents, manuscripts, maps, musical scores, plays, films, and recordings, this is the largest black history exhibit ever held at the Library, and the first exhibition of any kind to feature presentations in all three of the Library's buildings.



Former President Jimmy Carter and Former Secretary of State James Baker, right, co-chairs of the Commission on Federal Election Reform, discuss their report to Congress during a news conference on Capitol Hill Monday, Sept. 19, 2005. (AP Photo/Dennis Cook)



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## Siphoning Considered as Option

Josh Nolen  
Sports Editor

Hurricane Katrina took her toll not only on the Southern United States, but gas prices across the nation as well.

Although gas prices are dropping at a tremendous rate, they still do not compare to what they were two weeks ago. The gas price reached \$3.19 per gallon. On Sept. 14, 2005 the price is \$2.59 per gallon.

The reason for the drastic change in prices is because the price of barrels of oil went up. A barrel cost \$70.00 per barrel.

"It seems like whenever the country has a national emergency they raise the gas price on consumers. When 9/11 happened the gas price raised then. Why not lower the gas price to help people so they are able to donate money," senior Nate Brandt said.

Many people feel the affects of the affects of rising gas prices especially students who budget their money.

Students work hard all summer saving money for tuition, books, and living expenses. Students do not plan for hurricanes to happen, but when they do everybody is affected by it.

When the price of gas increases people have to make sudden changes to their budget. They will cut their routine activities out of their plans and conserve their money.



so they are able to pay for gas and purchase things they enjoy.

Students try to save as much money as they can, but they also want to spend it to have a good time while enjoying their college experience.

Some of Avila's students commute to school everyday. They have to watch their budget so money does not become their main problem.

"I drive a Nissan Xterra and it costs me on average \$50 to fill my tank. I wish I drove a smaller vehicle so it wouldn't cost as much," senior Kevin Gray said.

The gas prices are going to fluctuate from time to time but when it jumps .70 cents in one week it is going to hurt the economy.

In the Sept. 10, 2005 business section of the Kansas City Star they had an article showing what consumers are cutting back, because of the gas price. Sixty-six percent of Americans are driving less, 60% are cutting back on entertainment and 45% are cutting back on fast food. This was according to Technomic, a Chicago-based research and consulting firm.

How does this affect you? Are you going to go broke paying for gas? Choose what activities are really important. Is a night of binge drinking or \$20 in your gas tank going to be better for you?

### Average price of a regular gallon of gasoline

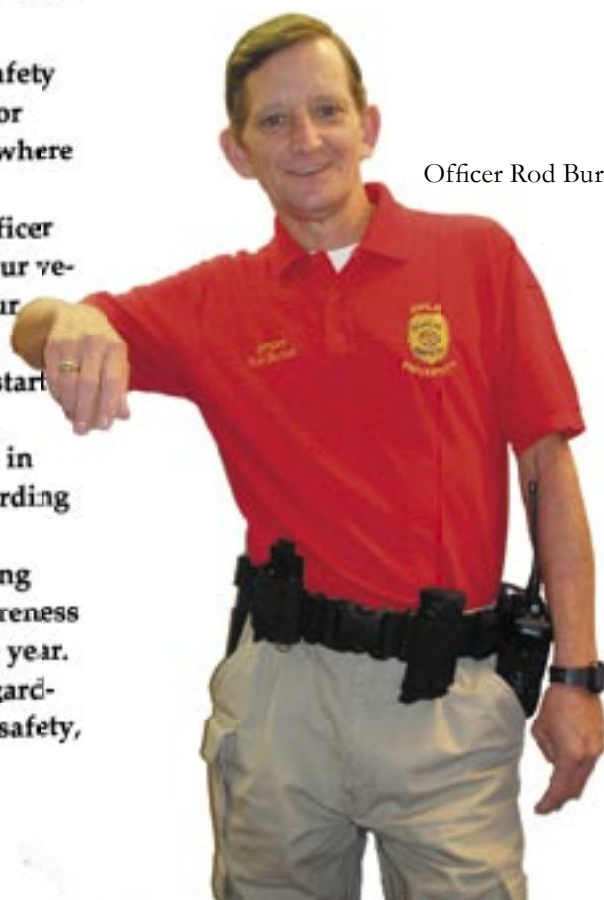
CITY	SEPT. 19	ONE YEAR AGO
Baltimore	\$2.96	\$1.82
Chicago	2.87	1.94
Los Angeles	2.96	2.08
Memphis	2.76	1.78
New York City	3.16	2.10
Philadelphia	3.05	1.89
Seattle	2.90	2.02
Washington, D.C.	3.08	1.92
National average	2.81	1.85

SOURCE: American Automobile Association

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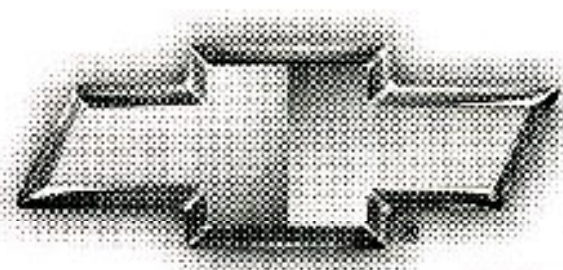
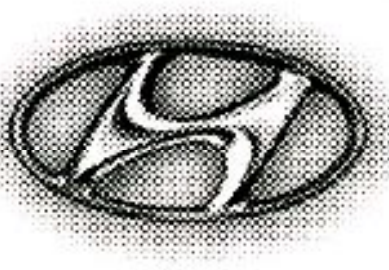

## Public Safety Services


- ⇒ Officers will provide a Safety Escort for any student to or from their vehicle or anywhere on campus if needed.
- ⇒ Whenever possible an officer will attempt to unlock your vehicle if you've locked your keys inside.
- ⇒ We will attempt to jumpstart your vehicle.
- ⇒ An officer will assist you in properly marking or recording your personal property.
- ⇒ Officers will be conducting various training and awareness programs throughout the year.
- ⇒ If you have questions regarding personal or property safety, ask an Officer.



Officer Rod Burton.

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# Skewed News and Odd Views

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) -- A man who immigrated from Kenya to the United States found prosperity beyond his expectations on the day he became a U.S. citizen.

Shortly after Moses Bittok took the oath of citizenship on Friday, he discovered he had a \$1.89 million winning ticket from the Iowa Lottery's Hot Lotto game.

"It's almost like you adopted a country and then they netted you \$1.8 million," Bittok said Monday as he cashed in his ticket. "It doesn't happen anywhere -- I guess only in America."

Bittok said he took the citizenship oath at the federal building in Des Moines Friday, then went shopping with his family. They stopped at a gas station to check his lottery ticket from the Sept. 21 drawing.

"For some reason, I'm calm," he said. His wife, Leonida, screamed.

Bittok, 40, an officer at the Iowa Correctional Institute for Women in Mitchellville, said he doesn't know exactly what he will do with his winnings, but a college fund for the couple's 4-year-old daughter, Mindy, is top priority.

BOSTON (AP) \_ When the Red Sox heat up, the ERs cool down.

According to a study published Monday in the Annals of Emergency Medicine, traffic in Boston-area emergency rooms significantly slowed during last year's Red Sox championship games.

"I have no idea where the patients go, but they don't come into the emergency room," said Dr. Alasdair Conn, the ER chief at Massachusetts General Hospital, which was included in the study.

Ben Reis and John Brownstein, researchers at Children's Hospital Boston, compared Nielsen television ratings with hospital traffic at a half dozen hospitals in metropolitan Boston.

They discovered that during the championship games, fans in three of every five households were watching. At the same time, emergency room visits dropped by about 15 percent when compared with trends for ER visits on fall evenings.

Doctors and the study's authors suspect that when the Red Sox are in the playoffs, patients who can defer an ER visit will do so.

"The heart attacks, the strokes, they will come no matter what's going on," Conn said. "The patient with pneumonia, the patient with an asthma attack will say, 'Maybe I can ride this out at home.'"

## Music Department is Changing Tune

Rebecca Stolberg  
Staff Writer

The Avila University Music Department is going through a great deal of change this year.

"The number of students enrolled in applied voice has increased 20% in the last year; it has increased 50% in the last two years," explained Dr. Amity Bryson, Avila's Music Department Chair. The music students at Avila are provided the opportunity to study vocal techniques as well as piano and guitar.

The Avila University Choral Program currently consists of two choral groups. Avila Singers and University Singers. Both choirs have increased in size this year. "Avila Singers has doubled in size," Dr. Stolberg said, Conductor of Avila Singers. Dr. Bryson conducts University Singers.

The music students are getting statewide recognition for their talents. The University Singers and select members of Avila Singers will be performing for the Missouri Choral Directors Association. The performances off-campus are based on honors, awards and invitations

This year, a new organization has been created for music students to become more involved in the music department. This organization is called Avila University Choral Activities. Its members include all of the students involved in the two choirs as well as several small student organized vocal groups. Dr. Bryson describes it as a "chance for students to take a leadership position in the music department."

Sophomore Whitney Bieler, who is a Musical Theatre major, serving in

her second year of University Singers, commented that though the department has expanded, it has not sacrificed the intimate small school feeling. "It still feels small." Junior Kristin Astourian agrees. Astourian is a transfer student, and chose Avila in part because of its smaller size. "I liked the smaller classes and the personal attention."

"Amity has done some amazing things with the music department and it's now taking a second full time person to handle," new artist in residence to the Music Department Dr. Tom Stolberg said.

The music department is featuring a recital series this year. These performances will be held on Sundays at 3:00 pm in the Foyle Hall Chapel. These recitals will feature the talents of Dr. Tom Stolberg, Dr. Amity Bryson, and Dr. Jeeyung Lee. The first performance will be October 30, 2005. Featuring Dr. Stolberg. In addition, there will also be a Student Recital on November 13, 2005, as well as a Music Department Recital on December 11, 2005.

There will be a choir concert for the students to display their talents and hard work on Friday, December 9, 2005 at 7:00 pm. The University Singers will also be performing at Avila's Homecoming football game.

The music students will also get to display their talents through musical theatre. The music department will be working closely with the theatre with the two musicals production of the 2005-2006 season. First Lady Suite by Michael John LaChiusa, as well as Aida by Elton John

# Former FEMA Director Blames Others

WASHINGTON (AP) - Former FEMA director Michael Brown blamed others for most government failures in responding to Hurricane Katrina on Tuesday, especially Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco and New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin. He aggressively defended his own role.

Brown also said that in the days before the storm, he expressed his concerns that "this is going to be a bad one" in phone conversations and e-mails with President Bush, White House chief of staff Andy Card and deputy chief of staff Joe Hagin.

And he blamed the Department of Homeland Security for not acquiring better equipment ahead of the storm.

His efforts to shift blame drew sharp criticism from Democratic and Republican lawmakers alike.

"I'm happy you left," said Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn. "That kind of look in the lights like a deer tells me you weren't capable of doing that job."

Rep. Gene Taylor, D-Miss., told Brown: "The disconnect was, people thought there was some federal expertise out there. There wasn't. Not from you."

Brown appeared before a special congressional panel set up by House Republican leaders to investigate the catastrophe.

"My biggest mistake was not recognizing by Saturday that Louisiana was dysfunctional," two days before the storm hit, Brown said.

Brown, who for many became a symbol of government failures in the natural disaster that claimed the lives of more than 1,000 people, rejected criticism that he was inexperienced.

"I've overseen over 150 presidentially declared disasters. I know what I'm doing, and I think I do a pretty darn good job of it," he said.

Brown resigned earlier this month after being removed by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff from on-site

responsibility. Brown will remain on the FEMA payroll for two more weeks, advising the agency, said Russ Knocke, spokesman for the Department of Homeland Security.

"He speaks for himself and he's entitled to his point of view and I don't have anything to add," Chertoff told reporters in Miami.

Brown joined FEMA in 2001 and ran it for more than two years. He was previously an attorney who held several local government and private posts, including leading the International Arabian Horse Association.

Rep. William Jefferson, D-La. told Brown: "I find it absolutely stunning that this hearing would start out with you, Mr. Brown, laying the blame for FEMA's failings at the feet of the governor of Louisiana and the Mayor of New Orleans."

In a testy exchange, Shays compared Brown's performance unfavorably with that of former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

"So I guess you want me to be the superhero, to step in there and take everyone out of New Orleans," Brown said.

"What I wanted you to do is do your job and coordinate," Shays retorted.

"I'm happy to be called not a Rudy Giuliani...a scapegoat ... if it means that FEMA ...is going to be able to be reborn," Brown said.

Criticized by Shays for failing to get better equipment to make communication easier among emergency agencies, Brown blamed those above him.

"We put that money in our budget request and it was removed by the Department of Homeland Security" he said.

Brown said he was "just tired and misspoke" when a television interviewer appeared to be the first to tell him there were desperate residents at the New Orleans Convention Center.

For more on this story go the  
[www.thetalon-online.com](http://www.thetalon-online.com)

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# Mexico Mission: A Message to the Avila Community

Dr. Ben Meade  
Associate Professor  
Film and Digital Media

As always, it was a very grueling but rewarding experience. The students were very diverse in backgrounds and experience, and were comprised primarily of people from Radiology and Nursing. This was good in that “teamwork” was second nature. We also had several students from Communication and Art, a Pre-Med major, and one Business major.

As with any trip, we did run into a few minor problems. First, many students didn’t pack as lightly as I suggested forcing us to rent an additional van. Although, I had budgeted for emergency issues, I did not have a driver, which in Mexico can be problematic. Student Lauren McCarthy offered to drive the third van. Before I made a decision, I called her father (John McCarthy) who explained that Lauren was competent and told me to go ahead. The problem was solved, and she did a fine job.

We went to build a church, and ordinarily the structure would have been 44 x 22 feet. Unfortunately, the lot size was smaller than usual so we had to modify the design and downsize the dimensions. I knew this was going to be a rough one. Pouring the slab on day one was actually easier, but the second and third days were much more difficult due to the change in planning and the heat.

The second day it was hot....really hot. I remember Max Thompson dragging himself out of the structure to tell me he could not get a ceiling brace to fit. I went inside and while swinging my framing hammer full force to finish the connection, smashed my finger. The blood hit one student who looked at me and said, “let’s call it a day.” I concurred. We were all really spent.

The last day of construction was very laborious. Max was foreman on the roof (it was about 110 degrees on top) and the women took over the electrical wiring, hanging sheetrock, and finishing the

exterior. At one point later in day there were too many people at the worksite and I decided to send some of the students back to get cleaned up (we were all going to dinner that evening, Wednesday). I sent back six students; and later the class went on to have an enjoyable evening together, although I was feeling age this time.

Many students exhibited outstanding leadership in light of the situation....very impressive. It was an amazing trip, all loved the native food (even the Vegans), our host pastor was gracious, our Casas Por Cristo leader was great, and Kincaid Bus Lines did a fantastic job getting us to El Paso and Back. In addition, the spiritually themed mural that Marci Aylward designed and created with the students was beautiful, well accepted by the church, and now hangs in the small sanctuary-by the way; the size of the mural is 8 x 12 feet. Many of the students will be part of a presentation planned for Harmony Month to coincide with the screening of the video we shot during the week.

During our return, all three vans were unfortunately pulled over and searched (it was a simple routine, the guards were very accommodating and courteous). It is always important to be cognizant of one’s surroundings, especially when crossing an international border, and although a few students seemed to have difficulty accepting what was happening (I think the search simply caught them off guard) everything went well and we were on our way in half an hour.

The long trek back to Avila was great; we went east through the Guadalupe Mountains and took some back roads with amazing examples of Americana. The student journals should be an amazing read, as will the reaction papers. Once completed, the video we create will be great to screen on campus for continued awareness of the values of the university. This is indeed a great experience for our students, and again I find myself both humbled and rejuvenated.



## Mexico – First-Hand Account

Max Thompson and Lauren McCarthy  
EIC Features and A\*Life Editor

“Lauren! Pay attention to the (expletive) road! This is not time to talk on the cell phone!” This was the first entry in my journal for the Interdisciplinary Studies class, Homebuilding in Mexico. Needless to say, any class excursion beyond Avila’s grounds will only lead to excitement. Okay, so maybe that’s a bit of an overstatement. However, if you put the right group of people together under the supervision of the right professors, the trip could end up being worthwhile. From Lauren and my perspectives, this was most definitely the case with this year’s trip to Juarez from Aug. 13-18. However, Lauren’s driving, in my opinion, wasn’t as competent as her father claimed. I was placed the passenger seat of the van Lauren had to drive in order to keep her eyes on the road - a much more difficult task than I had expected. It was a minor task in the big scheme of the trip.

Our goal was to build a church in three days for a congregation in the suburb of

Chihuahua, just outside of Juarez. For a motley group of builders, the church rose from the garbage on the ground to the nicest structure for miles nearly as planned. The job was planned to be completed by noon on the third day, but we managed to stretch it past seven that evening. To the uninformed observer, it may seem as though an extra half day of work wouldn’t be that big of a setback. To every member of the class that stayed late that evening, it was a major disappointment. For three days we poured every ounce of strength into concrete mixers, pushed all our weight against wall frames, and sweated half our body weight out under the Mexico sun.

Our routine for the three days of building started with breakfast at 6:30 a.m. It consisted of cereals, fruits, and French Toast prepared by Dr. Ben Meade. Students arrived at the worksite by 7:30 and began working immediately. After toiling through the searing hot morning sun, lunch gave everyone a chance to regroup and recharge, even if it was just for ten minutes. Work then continued through afternoons the

devil would consider too warm, and ended with the dimming of the sky around 6 pm. A bountiful meal was our reward at night, authentic Mexican food prepared by local women in the community we built in.

For those students that knew only of the Mexican cities that have become routine stops for cruises, Juarez was a bit of an eye opener. I can still hear the voices in my van echoing, “Please not here, please not here,” as we pulled up to the church where we stayed. Stray dogs, diseased, wounded, and dead, were around every corner. Garbage littered the rest of the garbage that served as an extra layer of soil on the ground. Small concrete buildings served as homes. Shower water in most homes was heated during the day in external tanks on the roofs. Children ran barefoot through streets filled with most likely some of the most unpleasant parasites and bacteria known to man. I should know because that was the only souvenir I brought home. Strange because I thought I had avoided all the things that could make me sick, but that didn’t seem to be enough. Clearly

the conditions were not even remotely pleasant, but that was the point. If you left America, taking it for granted all the while, you returned with at least a vague sense of all the comforts you have.

On the morning of the 18th, the church was presented to the pastor, and we made a pit-stop at the market in Juarez before we returned to American soil. The whole trip was documented by Dr. Meade and Junior Tom Franklin through the lens of a digital video camera, and a short film will be prepared from the footage to be shown during Harmony Month.

I know the trip was gratifying for both Lauren and I, and for many of the other students. Dr. Meade said before we went to be willing to be changed. He goes on the trip every year to keep him grounded, and to do something for those who don’t have any of the freedoms we do. Despite all that I learned and gained from the trip, if I could, I would make a shirt that reads: “I visited Juarez and all I got was a lousy parasite.”



## Facebook: Connecting Avila with colleges across the nation

Skylar McKeen and Reginald King  
Staff Writers

What started off as a buzz around a campus has rapidly turned into a roar as the students of Avila University are swept by the schools acquisition of the Facebook? With slacked jaws and glazed stares, Facebook users can be identified by their poor sense of time and frustration for computers without high speed internet connections. If this isn't enough to identify a potential user, over and incorrect uses of words like 'friend', 'group' and 'wall' are blatant signs of a practiced Facebooker. What is this thing and why does it have the ability to create these seemingly black holes in which people's time never returns?

For those who don't understand, it's timed to be filled in. Launched by Harvard graduate student Mark Zuckerberg in just February of 2004, the Facebook is essentially an online network that allows college students to connect with students at other universities. However this was not Zuckerberg's original intention. Noticing that Harvard social life in the dorms and on campus was anything but social, the Psychology major saw that the residence hall had directories with student

information. This sprung the idea of an online directory that encompassed all students, on and off campus. Within a week Zuckerberg had the basic computer code for the site drawn up. By systematically integrating the program into neighboring schools where students were most likely to have friends, the spark that started as need to create a social net at an unsocial world soon became a nationwide firestorm.

There are currently over three hundred schools listed on the Facebook site, which, all together, support close to one million members. The actual set up of the web site itself thrives on its own simplicity and freedom it allows users to enjoy. To be a part of Facebook, a sanctioned college email address must be provided to create a profile. To create a profile, the user is required to state their name, school, year and status in school, gender, and hometown. The user then has the freedom to put any other information ranging from favorite movie quote to political opinions on the personal portion of the profile. Once that is complete, the user then has the power to create groups as open or exclusive to their preference, send other

members messages and request or confirm friendships. If a mutual friendship is agreed upon by two members, then those members are permitted to see each others profiles. Once a person's profile can be accessed, messages can be written on the wall portion of the profile along with being able to view the all the groups the members are a part of. Due to the fact that the site is run on the idea of overlapping friends of friends, any member can view any members list of friends whether or not the two members have a confirmed friendship or not. Connections to classes, hobbies, sports and high schools are other ways to 'track down' long lost friends from high school and earlier years.

"It's addicting," says Jon Ramsdell. "You see people on there that you haven't seen in years."

Ramsdell, a junior from Santa Barbra, California, continues about his Facebook experience.

Some Avila students recognize their addiction with out shame while others identify the potential danger of scheduling disasters and disorientation of time, yet still feel no regrets about using it.

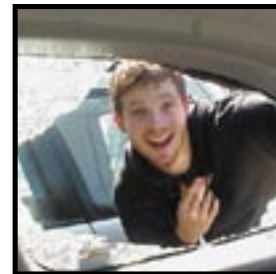
"I'm addicted. I check it at least once a day," Missy Brickles said. However, once a day is not an addiction, but just recreational use, comparatively speaking.

"I don't like to admit this, but I'm sort of addicted to it now.... I do spend quite a bit of time on it. I really like it. Facebook helped me track down my friends, and even helped me find a friend of mine that I haven't talked to since elementary school. It's awesome."

As the Facebook at Avila evolves, many students at the school find the addiction worsens with time.

"I started off just asking my real friends to be my friends on Facebook," said Ramsdell "Now, I'll request friendships with people just because I think I've heard their names in a conversation. It's crazy, man. It's like I need to get at least five friends during the day, or I won't be able to sleep at night."

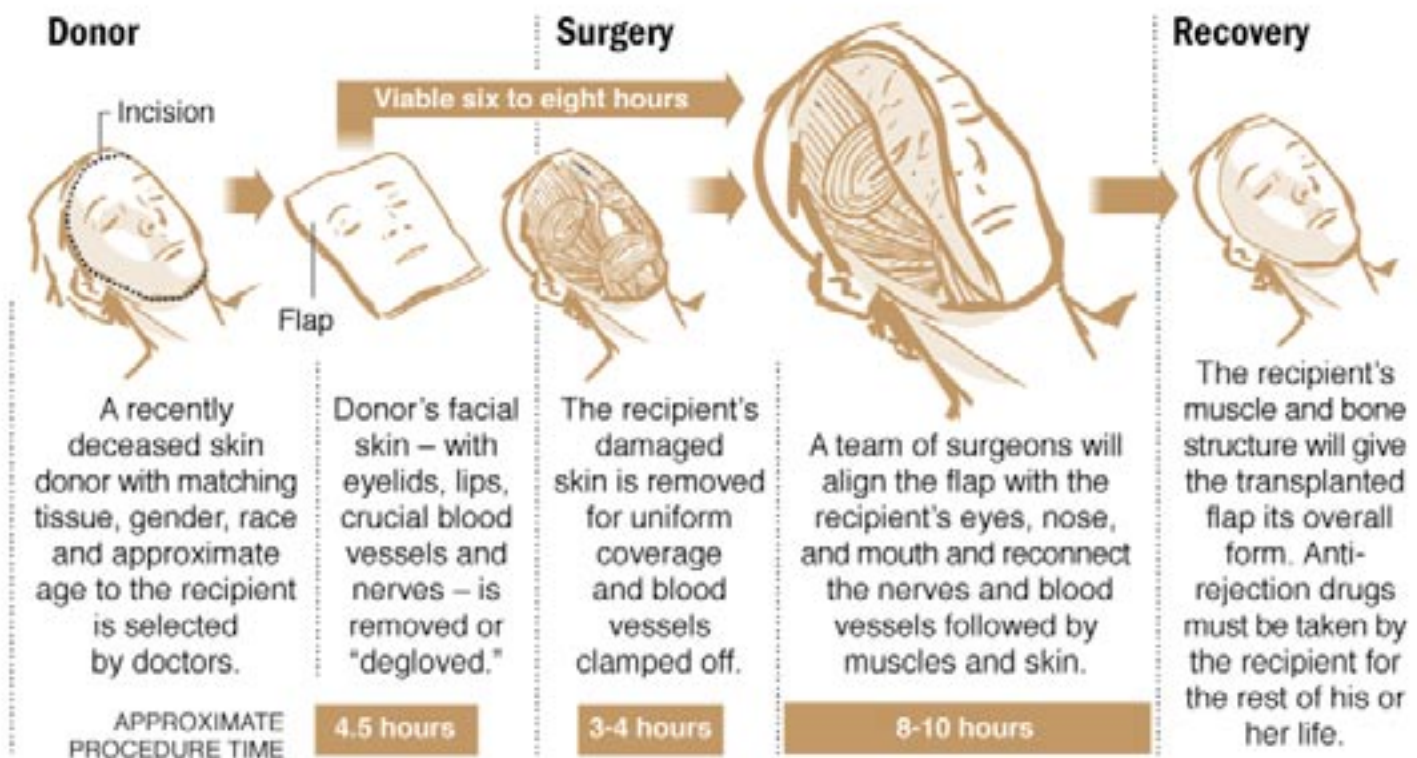
As Facebook opens new possibilities to Avila students, a storm cloud simultaneously builds over the horizon waiting to dump new problems and obstacles on the shoulders of the students who so freely enjoy this new privilege.



Avila students express themselves on Facebook

### Radical technique, new beginning

Surgeons at the Cleveland Clinic will soon perform the world's first total facial tissue transplant surgery to give people horribly disfigured by burns or other accidents, a chance at a new life. Critics say such a procedure is too risky for a matter not life threatening.



SOURCE: Dr. Maria Siemionow, the Cleveland Clinic

AP



# New Club Acts Up

Rebecca Stolberg,  
Staff Writer

There is a lot going on in Goppert Theatre these days. Students are looking forward to participating in two productions this semester and can be found hanging out in the lobby between classes and rehearsals, but the newest addition to theatre life comes in the form of a new club: The Avila University Theatre Company (AUTC).

The interest in a theatre club was alive among students in Goppert last year, but it was through the assertiveness of two students in particular: Deonna Bouye and William Swedenburg, and with the help of the Dean of the College of Humanities and Performing Arts, Dr. Charlene Gould, that the club was established for students to participate in this year. President of AUTC, senior Deonna Bouye, who had the privilege of announcing the new club at this semester's theatre rally, said that it was begun "because we wanted to raise more awareness for theatre on the campus and this was a way for our students to collaborate with other organizations to get the interest of the entire student body."

Dr. Charlene Gould stressed the importance that the club should remain fun and rewarding without "becoming a burden" in an email. "Our students work from August to May without many breaks, and it is so important that they can compete for year-end rewards as other organizations do," Gould said. She also said that the club, "allows for students to get together and enjoy each other's company outside of the times they are working on a production."

Although the club is still brand new, students are already excited about what AUTC will bring to their Avila experience. "I just think it will bring a better identity to the theatre people," junior Loren Operle said.

"There are so many clubs on campus that I think that it's great that theatre people finally have recognition," first-year student Eric Johansen said. "It gives me a sense of pride in Avila."

But this club is not just for students in the theatre department. It is hoped that students who are working on other majors will join the company and become a part of what is going on in Goppert Theatre. "We want to include and embrace everyone to get a wide range of perspectives," Bouye said.

This is also a way for students who may be curious about theatre to find the answers to their questions. "For others it's another way to get to know the theater department in a vehicle other than talking to the professors," Assistant Director of Theatre, Robert Foulk said. "If they are wary of just jumping into the department the company is a good way to get their feet wet."

For those who are interested in joining or finding out more about the Avila University Theatre Company, "just ask anyone sitting in [the Goppert Theatre] lobby," Bouye said with a smile.

# Madden Makes Noise in Westport

John De Roo  
Staff Writer

With 20 game machines all set up, the music blaring through the loudspeakers, and excited game players awaiting their chance to play, the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Madden Challenge tournament, arrived in Kansas

The atmosphere around the players was one of sheer joy and frustration. Some players would have instant success, while others would go home right away after losing. Guys who brought their girlfriends to the event had even worse luck.

As the announcer Curly Top said, "Women are the black cats of Madden." All

after the tournament to find out about his experience playing the game.

Considering the surroundings and the pressure, Nez kept his cool.

"The first half was pretty flawless, led 10-0 at half. Then a complete mental breakdown in second half." Jason said that he played as the Philadelphia Eagles and his opponent was the Kansas City Chiefs. He said the reason the second half went so poorly was because of two plays. One was a 4<sup>th</sup> down failure to convert when the score was 10-7, and in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter he sent the house and got burned on a pass play. That play made the final score of the game 14-10.

Another interesting thing about the game play was the quarterback position. Jason said that the quarterback vision was the toughest thing because you can either throw it away or start running. You can look at two receivers and if they are not open, you can get in trouble. That was the main reason he went with Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb, "because I knew he could scramble." Jason's game was one of many that I witnessed during the day and everyone playing looked like they were having a lot of fun.

There was also a raffle going on to give away door prizes. Prizes included: NFL hats, shirts, plus other NFL memorabilia, and even tickets to upcoming games. The Madden Challenge was a great event to experience. All of the staff working the event was very friendly and helpful. If you ever have a chance to go to a Madden event, do it! You will not be disappointed.



City. The Madden Challenge tournament was going to 32 National Football League cities plus Los Angeles and Las Vegas. The winners from each city would then go on to Honolulu, Hawaii during the Pro Bowl for a chance to win \$100,000. Kansas City was the fourth stop on the tour.

in all, most of the gamers seemed to have a good time and the competition was in good spirits.

One of the players who participated in the tournament was Avila senior Jason Nez. He played only one game in the tournament and lost right away. I interviewed Jason

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## Getting Pierced? Know This.

By Kris Sachs

To say the least, piercing is really popular in this day and age. It seems like everyone has something pierced somewhere, whether it's as tame as the ear or as extreme as the bridge of the nose. It is certainly growing in popularity and becoming more acceptable in society today.

Piercing is a very alluring form of self-expression. It isn't permanent like a tattoo, and it's cute and glittery unless you are going for the self-mutilated look. It's also pretty cheap, depending on where you go to get it done. Getting the basic places pierced—like the bellybutton, nose, ears, tongue, lip and eyebrow—runs from about 30-45 bucks. Not a big deal.

If you're going to get a piercing, be prepared for your parents telling you it's a heathen and outlandish practice. It's true. It certainly isn't a recent practice and it isn't just popular here. It's been all over the world for a long time. History lesson numero uno: The Egyptians got their navel and eyebrow pierced to show royalty and prestige. India signified the same principals through the nose piercing, symbolizing beauty also. In Australia, New Guinea, Africa, India, N and S America and Indonesia, the lip piercing was a sign of passing from a child to an adult. In several cultures, the nipples and the septum of males were pierced to show strength and warrior status. Mayans pierced their tongues to talk to their long-dead ancestors. End of lesson one.

As you can see, piercing is an old practice. Like the people from India, we use piercing mainly for vain reasons aka, there is no purpose or requirement to get pierced and the piercing really doesn't do anything for us except look decorative. But reasons for decorating one's body can range from attraction to freedom.

"(Piercings) are so hot," first-year student Lauren Cazzel says. Senior Danielle Laubach adds, "Go for it, it's a personal decision."

There are certainly a lot of places to get decorated. Now, you don't want to go looking like a screwed up Christmas tree, but a few are pretty neat. We all know the basics—ears, bellybutton, even the nose or lip—but there are several piercings that are really out there. Just on the face, you can get your cheeks pierced,

the bridge of your nose, your forehead and your chin. Actually, if you think about it, you can get anywhere pierced that you have skin. If you go to a tattoo and piercing parlor,

look through the books that have pictures of various body art the business has done. Prepared to be scared. People get the underside of their fore arms, various places on the chest and belly, the backbones, the backside of thighs and shins. Oh, the terrible, terrible

pain. Not only will you see just one piercing in a single place, you will see rows upon rows. Yipe! That's hardcore and all, but it is very painful to just look at it.

Some piercing and tattooing places also practice suspension. Suspension? What does that have to do with piercings? If you think about it a minute, I'm sure you can figure it out. Suspension is the practice of putting hooks through the skin and hanging off an object (such as beams or a tree), supported only by the hooks through the skin. This is definitely taking piercing to another level! Usually, the hooks are removed after the suspension but few people do have permanent suspension holes. The most popular are ones down

the spinal cord and both sides of the back. The temporary ones leave terrible scars. Why would people do such a painful thing of their own free will? A test of endurance, euphoric rush of adrenaline, a spiritual experience, drunkenness. I'm sure there is a larger list of other

personal reasons to do such things, but we won't go into that.

Another painful process that has to do with piercing is the stretching of ears. By no means is it as scary as hanging suspended from hooks, but it is definitely

painful. Before going into the process, there is history behind it...History lesson numero dos: The oldest mummy in the world, found in an Austrian glacier, had both ears pierced ranging from the size of 7-11mm. That's pretty big. It is not known if they were pierced that size originally or stretched to that size over time. Either way, the dead guy had big ear holes! In other countries, they also practice the stretching of ears...and various other things, such as the lip, so it is not a new thing. End of lesson two.

Stretching ones ears today has become very popular. In any place that does piercing, you can even tell them the size of the chunk you want taken out of your ear. If you have just regular holes in your ear, there are many ways to stretch them. My favorite method is the taper. The taper is a conical shaped piece of metal or plastic that you push through your ear until you reach the biggest end. There are many different sizes of tapers you can use so you don't go straight from small hole to big hole. You can also stick multiple earrings

through your ear. Later, you can put in plugs (self-explanatory) that can be made of stone, wood, plastic, or metal. Besides the pain, there isn't really any drawback to stretching your ears unless you are sensitive to piercing, aka you have had trouble just with getting your ears pierced the normal way (like infection or swelling). The holes eventually shrink back down to the original size with the only drawbacks being possible scarring or a wart-like formation where the hole was.

A very un-cool drawback to piercing is that they can get infected in a big way. Not only are we talking redness and swelling, but also blood poisoning and retraction of the jewelry into the skin caused by major swelling. If you go to the wrong place, you can even contract HIV! So be careful where you go and get pierced, and if it is your first piercing, make sure you know how to take care of it. You may have to pay more to go to a good place, but would you rather pay for a shiny piercing or the doctor's bill? Oh, by the way, don't do it yourself. Some people are fine with doing it themselves, but others get terrible results. Just go pay the cash.

Now that you are informed, feel free to tell your parents off and go get pierced up. Actually, if your parents or relatives have a problem with it, try and reassure them of your cause, such as self-expression and/or cute, sparkly decoration. Oh, and don't laugh or sneer at people that are all pierced everywhere. They are a lot more hardcore than you.



## Invasion of MySpace

Name Please  
Title to follow

Screw AOL and Instant Messaging services. Screw email. Screw all dating services and Internet chat lines. MySpace is "the" place for online interaction. MySpace has swept through the nation; with beginnings in Santa Monica, California MySpace has made it's way all the way down to Key West and overseas. It was started in September 2003 by Chris DeWolf and Tom Anderson and has since grown to over 16 million users per month, enough to interest Rupert Murdoch, owner of Fox News, who recently purchased the social networking site.

"I love it, but I don't know why," sophomore Becky McCormick said. "It's so addicting. I just want to know if someone wrote me back."

For other students like McCormick, MySpace has become a part of their morning wake-up routine. Before brushing your teeth, you flip on the computer. "New Messages" or "New Friend Request" are two of many pop-ups that flash on your homepage, along with the anticipation of receiving a new comment.

"You're kinda anxious to see if anyone wrote you," freshman Brandon Kipp said.

Kipp is not the only Avila student excited about the phenomenon. Currently, there are 139 Avila students logged on to MySpace. Out of those 139, 47 are members of the "Yeah, I go to Avila." group created by junior Kate McClung.

"It's a cheap way to keep in touch with friends back home," Kipp said.

MySpace is free to join and free to sustain membership. It offers anyone and everyone the opportunity to meet new people and interact with other members around the nation.

"I found old friends from high school and I could talk on special interest groups, like the Diabetes group," McClung said.

MySpace offers more than just two-way communication. You can personalize your own profile, add pictures, provide general information and quizzes, set up music videos, and create blogs and bulletins.

"You get to design your own web page and make it who you are," senior Whitney Martinez said. "It resembles you and things you like to do."

All is great, but is there such a thing as too much. Is MySpace taking over our lives?

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# Text Messages Hydration:

Lauren McCarthy  
A-life Editor

Text messaging: a quick way to communicate or an easy way out.

"I might be the fastest text messenger in the world," sophomore Brian Witt said.

So, is that something to be proud of or just an excuse to avoid actually talking. Is text messaging the end to all social interaction and all vocal communication? What's next?

For the students at Avila University, texting is a talent; it's an everyday activity that requires fewer and fewer brain cells. Some cell phones are already programmed with certain phrases such as; what's up, call me or see you later. All that is required of the user is the ability to press a button.

Walking through the quad you will see one in every five students playing on their phone. However, these alleged cell phones are not held up to their ear, but gripped in their palm. Cell phones have lost their primary purpose; for talking.

Senior Xavier Ramirez, tells us why he uses text messaging.

"You can talk to more people at once, without all the booty chatter," Ramirez said.

Text messaging gives the user the option of talking to more than one person at a time. Another reason many students choose to text is because it is more cost efficient. More students have unlimited text messages than unlimited minutes.

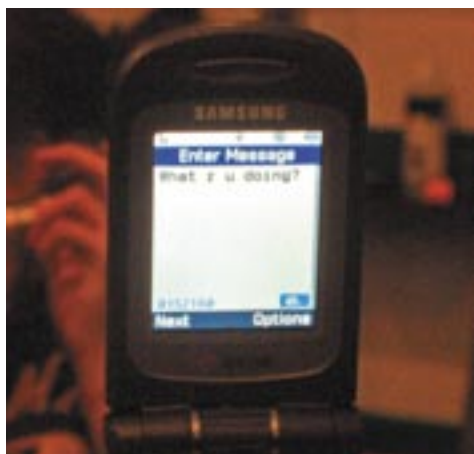
"I don't take up my minutes by text messaging," freshman Kayla Johnston said.

Needless to say, text messaging is not only cheaper but more convenient according to Avila students.

"It is much easier to text, because you can just ignore them if you want," freshman Reagan Klinge said.

Choosing to write back or ignore isn't the only positive. Text messaging avoids all common and uncomfortable situations with ordinary cell phone usage. There is no awkward silence, no facial expressions, no formal rejection. With text messaging, you can come out and say what you want without shame or embarrassment. You can say what you feel without their physical presence. Text messaging provides a safe feeling while managing to get your point across.

For example, your best pick-up line might be difficult to say for fear of rejection. But, through text messaging you can avoid panic



# What's in you?

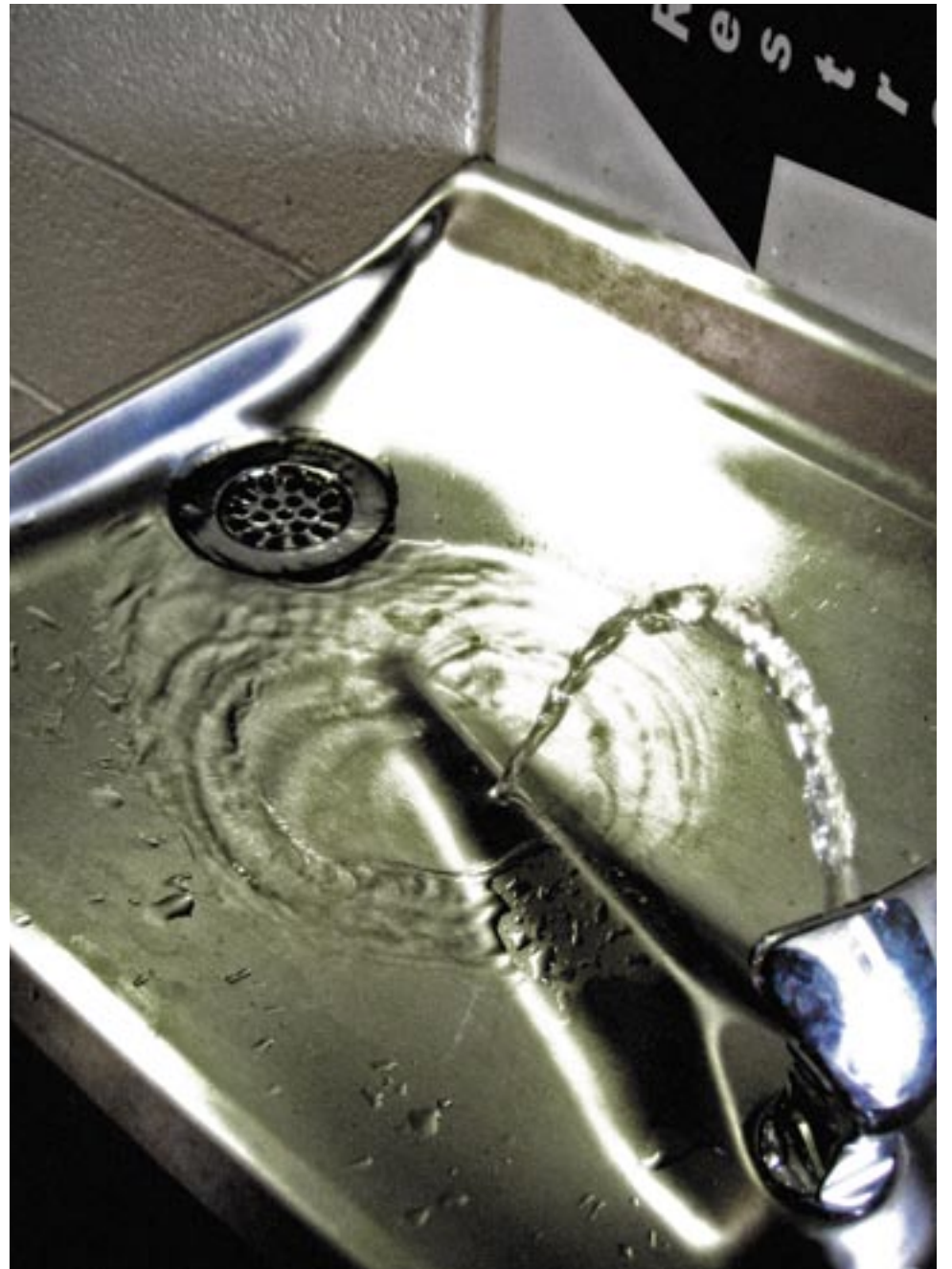
Skylar McKeen  
Staff Writer

We've all seen the commercials -- perfectly tuned athletes with rock-hard bodies pouring out neon orange sweat. The Gatorade Company's slogan poses an interesting question. "Gatorade, is it in you?"

Well, is it? A recent survey of athletes at Avila answered that question with mixed responses. The poll shows that half of female athletes would rather drink a sports drink than water while working out, whereas seventy-five percent of male athletes would drink water during exercise instead of a sports drink.

According to Avila dancer Charla Butler, "I think it tastes better. Besides, it has electrolytes and other stuff in it as well."

Indeed, a study conducted at the University of Northern Iowa concluded that before and during exercise it is more beneficial to consume sugar and mineral-free liquids. When sugar enters the body the liver produces more insulin, which results in a spike of energy followed by an inevitable decline. If there is too much sugar and potassium in the body, due to drinking too much of a sports drink, hyponatremia, or over-hydration, can occur. When hyponatremia happens, the body is sucking up too much liquid and anything from headaches to nausea and even fainting can result. Northern Iowa's studies concluded that drinking water before and during a workout, and then drinking a sports drink immediately afterwards is the best combination of the two fluids.



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# What Students Can Learn From Athletes

Dr. Linda Cleveland  
School of Science and Health

As a second-generation college science teacher who has always considered reading preferable to running, I don't like to admit it, but there are some things that we can learn from athletes that will help in the classroom.

First, and most important, is the importance of practice. It never ceases to amaze me how many of my students - who understand perfectly the necessity for batting practice for the Royals and tackling drills for the Chiefs - assume that if they cannot do chemistry instantly that it means they have no talent and should avoid science like a running back evading tacklers. Wrong! Learning chemistry (or biology or anything else) is like sinking putts or making free throws - no one, not even your teacher, does it consistently well without a lot of practice. Of course it looks easy when the instructor does it - so does golf when Tiger Woods does it.

Second is the timing and effectiveness of practice. Students seem to think that they can learn three weeks' worth of material the night before the test. Wrong! Does

the football team do all their preparation - all their strength and agility drills and review of game films - the night before the game? Not if they want to have a chance to win! On the contrary, the team



practices every day, to give themselves time to perfect the skills they are learning. Furthermore, the team's practices focus on specific skills needed in playing the game, sometimes even simulating game conditions. For learning science, this means focusing on applying, not just skimming

over or even memorizing, the concepts presented in textbooks; it means working practice problems, re-reading to see what you missed when the problem doesn't work out, and trying again until it makes sense.

Third is an attitude. Listen to the coach or the star player before a game with a highly regarded opponent, and you will hear things like "This game will be a real challenge for us, but we will be ready" or "This game will tell us where our program is now." If students approached tests with the same attitude, and considered exams as opportunities to show their mettle and demonstrate proficiency, they might find that practice and preparation would be more worthwhile. If the exam for students is analogous to the game for athletes, the teacher is the coach helping the students prepare and, often, also the opponent who constructs the tests.

Learn from the athletes. Practice, do it effectively, and with a positive attitude. Test yourselves beforehand, so that you are prepared to show your best work on exams. Your schoolwork will improve, and, who knows, you might even start to like it!

# Great Moments in Writing

Janelle Setter  
Writing Instructor

"There is no great writing, only great rewriting." -Justice Brandeis

What a difference a day makes, just ask William Shakespeare. When he first wrote a soliloquy for the character Hamlet, the ideas he wanted to communicate were not very clear, and certainly not the powerful expressions they later came to be. The "Bad Quarto Text" is the first printed folio of Hamlet, which appeared in 1603 and



may have been preformed on stage. David Bergeron, professor of English at the University of Kansas and author of several books about Shakespeare, believes the revised version "may have been designed as a 'reading text.'" Moreover, according to Dr. Bergeron, "If, for the sake of argument,

the 1603 version represents Shakespeare's first writing, then surely he revised and improved the text in the second quarto."

Given Shakespeare's stature in the world of literature, readers might be shocked to see such a gifted writer struggling to make words flow. However, it can be an effectual lesson for writers at any level to learn. Shakespeare had the capacity to revise or "re-see" his work, a simple principle that anyone can incorporate into his or her writing process. Kasey Riley, instructor in The School of Visual and Communication Arts, has this to offer students: "Few, if any, writers can produce a solid piece of writing for any purpose without revision. I advise my students to plan on two to three drafts of any document they submit for grade or publication."

Furthermore, you never know when you might go from mundane to fabulous by reviewing your first draft. I liken it to having a potato garden. The plants are not pretty and when you finally dig them up, it looks like all that your hard work has produced are big lumps of clay with roots sticking out and worms hanging off of them. However, when you shake off the dirt, pick off the roots, clean them up, boil them down and add some butter...well, for any one who has been served new potatoes straight from the garden, they know it can be a feast fit for a king or queen.

Writing is the same way. Take, for instance, the song Scrambled Eggs, by Paul McCartney. He had a tune he was fond of, and soon added words about his favorite breakfast. He became quite attached to the song, but no one else liked it and they grew

tired of hearing it. In fact, his manager threatened to take away his piano unless he came up with "real" words for the song. After giving the words great consideration, he penned the most successful lyric the Beatles ever recorded: Yesterday.

The revised examples of McCartney and Shakespeare reinforce the concepts of great writing: prewriting and revision. According to Holly Milkowart, Assistant Director of the Intensive Language & Culture Program here at Avila, "Most people put the cart before the horse when it comes to writing. However, prewriting can make a big difference in how a paper is written. Prewriting is easy because all grammar rules are set aside. It's just you, a pencil, some paper, and an idea. Both Scrambled Eggs by P. McCartney and Shakespeare's work "Act III Soliloquy" from Hamlet were developed from prewriting and later perfected by revision. Whether a student uses brainstorming, freewriting or clustering, prewriting helps the student organize his or her ideas."

Thus, instead of writing about bearing a "thousand more calamities besides", Shakespeare could more forcefully speak of ending "the heart-ache and the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to." And McCartney, instead of idealizing cuisine, could sing about desperation and lost love. Remember, it is a practice common to all writers: if you don't like what you see at first, re-see it. What looks like a clump of nothing in the beginning may be the roots of a feast for the senses. You never know what words and thoughts you might dig up by redoing your first draft.

# Want To Do Better In College?

(CP Wire) Let's face it: college can be a scary place. The transition from high school to college is often an intimidating and frustrating process ... but it doesn't have to be.

E-tips for A grades, a new, free website from Pearson Higher Education, ([www.tipsforgrades.com](http://www.tipsforgrades.com)), takes some of the stress out of the "college experience" to help students not only succeed but also enjoy the ride.

In-depth site topics include, "Navigating Your Freshman Year," "Make Your Textbook Work for You," "Tackling The College Paper," "Fishing For A Major," "Getting Through College Without Going Broke," and "Have No Career Fear." The majority of topics are based on the Students Helping Students series of books published by Prentice Hall Press, a division of Penguin Group (USA). These titles, available for purchase through the e-tips site, are all written and edited by top students and recent graduates from colleges and universities throughout the U.S.

Other e-tips features include the interactive X-Change, through which students can submit their own tips, and view short video clips of other students discussing their own specific suggestions.

E-tips is the latest part of Pearson Higher Education's "First Days of Class" program, which was created four years ago to help students succeed in their college course work. As part of this program, representatives from Pearson Higher Education are teaming up with bookstores and professors around the country to help students get the most out of their new learning resources, and to demystify the process of textbook selection.

Sessions will be held to explain why assigned texts and other course material were chosen; to review the most effective ways to use textbooks for maximum gain; to train students on the use of any digital media or course technologies assigned with the text; and to answer questions that students might have about their textbook purchases.

"College is an important investment for students and we want to do whatever we can to help make the experience as positive and successful as possible," said Sandi Kirshner, Chief Marketing Officer of Pearson's Higher Education, International and Professional Publishing Group.

"We're very pleased to forge this partnership with Pearson Education and provide two unbeatable information sources in one: the Students Helping Students series and Pearson's undeniable expertise in education and study skills," said Nancy Perlman, Vice President/Director of Intergroup Business Development for Penguin Group (USA). "This site establishes a new resource that reaches college kids directly and offers help in a fun and dynamic way."



## Avila Welcomes New Faculty Members

Sherrie Adams – Mathematics  
 Carrie Quinn – Sports Science  
 Dr. Jim Johnson – Physics  
 Dr. Tom Stolberg – Music  
 Dr. Daniel George – Business  
 Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick – Education  
 Dr. Stephen Roberds – Political Science  
 Nancy McReynolds – Art Therapy  
 Tish Conejo – Nursing  
 J. Anthony Snorgrass – Communication  
 Gina Graves - Psychology



Find these professors and ask them where they got their degree to win a 256mb Flash Drive send answers to: talon-news-network@excite.com First correct response wins the prize!

President Tom Gordon and Academic Vice Provost Sr. Marie Joan Harris lead new faculty orientation.



### Faculty T&L Seminars

#### Fall Semester:

September 27, 2005 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Barefoot Room	<b>Effective Teaching with Disabled Students</b> Manning, K. (1994). Expectations and surprises in learning to teach a member the deaf culture. <i>Journal on Excellence in College Teaching</i> , 5(1), 77-88. Facilitator: David Wissmann
October 26, 2005 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Barefoot Room	<b>Effective Teaching with Learning Communities</b> Lichtenstein, M. (2005). The importance of classroom environments in the assessment of learning community outcomes. <i>Journal of College Student Development</i> 46, 341-356. Facilitator: Dwyane Smith
November 29, 2005 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Borserine Conference Room	<b>The Feminist Teacher</b> Reading: to be determined from the book <i>The Feminist Teacher</i> Facilitator: Amity Bryson

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## Cartoons Are Cool Again!

Kris Sachs  
Staff Writer

It's 11 pm on a Sunday night and you're bored, to say the very least. It's TV time! So you amble over to your couch where you collapse in a comfortable heap. After spending several minutes fruitlessly searching for the remote on the floor, you find it wedged in cushions under your body, and you flip on the TV. Channel after channel you go. Bloody hell! Nothing on as usual, pretty much like every Sunday night. Finally, you settle on an infomercial about Swiss face cream and mindlessly zone out.

Does this sound like an average Sunday night to you? Well, I have good news, every night, except Fridays, there is something to watch on your box. It's something called Adult Swim....on Cartoon Network. Oh God! Cartoons! Didn't we pass that stage somewhere around 5<sup>th</sup> grade along with that mullet? Mullets...yeah, those need to stay in the past, but cartoons? They are back in action on your TV. Not only are daytime cartoons awesome, but now, so are nighttime ones, which bring us back around to the subject of Adult Swim.

What is Adult Swim you ask? Sophomore Theresa Gleeson says it's God's gift to man. While it may be that, it's predominantly cartoons that appeal to adults. That's right, humor for everyone! Sometimes naughty and sometimes incredibly stupid, this fun Chex Mix of characters and shows are immensely entertaining. When I say

"naughty", we're not talking anime porn here, this stuff is strictly PG-13, bordering R at times for "inappropriate humor" and "lewd references" to sex, drugs, and alcohol. Whatever, it's hilarious. You're saying "So what... cartoons for adults? How lame..." Ah, no my friends, not lame but extremely cool. They can be very stupid at times, but for the most part, you can tell whoever makes these cartoons is very clever and witty.



*ATHE is just one of the many programs that you can catch on Adult Swim*

"It's flippin' awesome. Everybody should watch it, and if you don't, you should be shot," first-year student Marshall Juergens jests.

On your average night, Adult Swim will start with Family Guy at 10 pm. Now, if you haven't heard about Family Guy go cry in a dark corner, then go look it up on the internet. Other shows like Futurama, The Brak Show, Aqua Teen Hunger Force and many others follow Family Guy in the line-up. Around midnight or one am, there is a bunch of anime, if you like that sort of thing, then it goes back to other cartoons. Adult Swim lasts into

the wee hours of the morn, so don't be disappointed if you get to your TV late. It shall be there, waiting for you.

I'm not going to tell you what the shows are about. You will just have to find out for yourself. To know more about the line-up and little blurbs on the shows, go to [www.adultswim.com](http://www.adultswim.com). There are games there too, and a bunch of

other really neat stuff. All you die-hard fans out there make people watch it. The word must be spread. You have a date with your TV tonight don't you? Oh yes....

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## Movie Ticket Prices

Kenny Jackson  
Staff Writer

It seems like planning a worthwhile date in Kansas City is a monumental task. Dinner and a movie cost a lot more than they did just ten years ago. Movie ticket prices can cost as much as dinner now, and many people might be resolving that there are better things to do. Many will point to the summer slump in the box offices as proof. Movie prices and concession prices seem to have sky-rocketed over the past years in the Kansas City area and all over the US. People are deciding to wait until a film comes out on DVD, rather than go to the theater. The few months waiting doesn't seem to phase the general population.

ABC News reported in 2001 that just a decade ago ticket prices averaged five dollars. Now prices are around eight or nine dollars. The movie industry is just following the trend around the nation, increasing prices slowly but steadily. A three-dollar difference over a decade doesn't seem that bad to most people. When one considers the increased cost of gasoline, concert tickets, and major sporting events, it's amazing that movie tickets are still under ten dollars.

The reason it seems to be so monumental is that in places like the Kansas City metro



area, there isn't really much to do for modern, inexpensive entertainment in a safe environment. The movies were a place where anybody could go and not have to dish out twenty dollars. Now two tickets, a drink, popcorn, and maybe some candy will cost twenty dollars or more!

If one can't resist going to the theater, matinees are the only way to save money. The money is not the only problem, though, the experience isn't always pleasant either. Many people would rather watch a movie in peace for four dollars at home, instead of paying twenty dollars for two people to barely hear a movie with a hundred people talking, laughing out of control, and forgetting to turn their cell phones to vibrate.

Some companies have resorted to sending their films straight to DVD. Disney has done this and it has proven successful. It is a lot easier for parents to just buy the movie so that their children can stay home and watch it a hundred times in a row, rather than taking an unpredictable trip to a crowded theater. It will be interesting to see what moves other major companies will do to make money off their films. With the economy the way it is, there are a lot of people who would rather spend twenty dollars on something that will last longer than a 90-minute movie.



# Madden '06: Game Review

Reginald King  
Staff Writer

With every upcoming football season there is another chapter added to the John Madden Football saga. For the last 12 years the Madden Football franchise has been the number one selling sport franchise in video game history in the United States. Unless you're clueless about video games at some point you've probably played at least one version of the Madden video game. The great standardization of the offense and the new artificial intelligence (AI) improvements made on defense are just a couple of features that keep the Madden game fans coming back for more year after year.

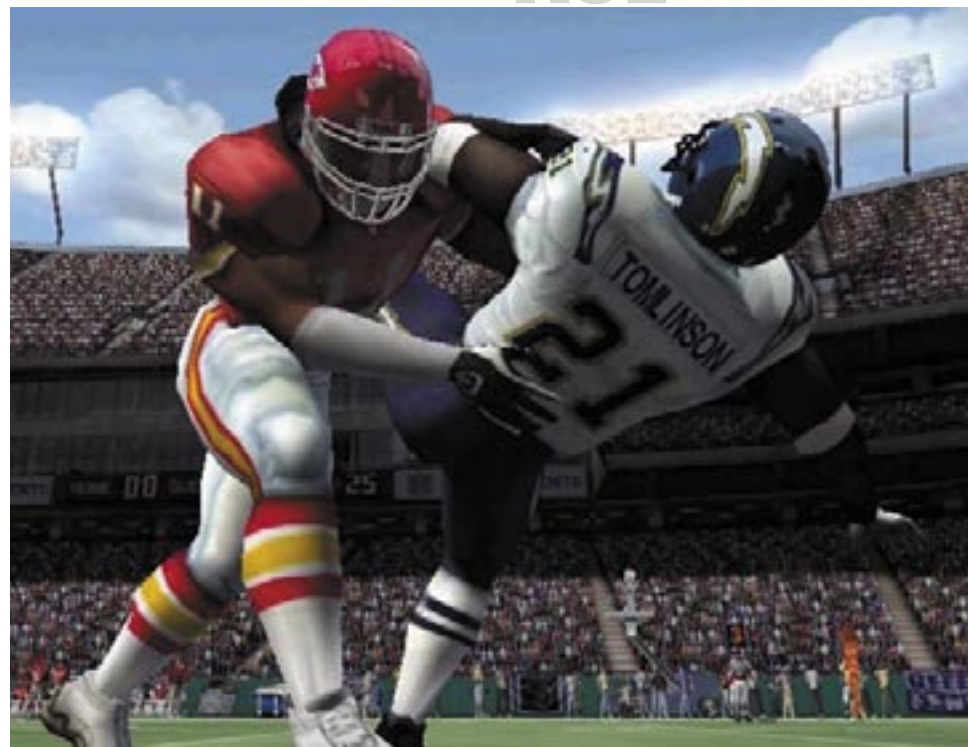
This year, EA Sports have taken great strides to make the game even better than years before, by making it a whole gaming experience. The biggest improvement was made on the offensive side of the ball with the addition of Quarterback Vision. This new advancement allows your quarterback to increase his ability to hit receivers that are in his field of vision. The greater the quarterback's rating the bigger his vision on the field is.

On the defensive side of the ball, there was no addition as big as Quarterback

Vision. EA kept all of the same defensive schemes as years before, with the exception of adding more plays. The hit stick is still there, but its effectiveness has been lowered because of the Quarterback Vision. On the other hand, the average sacks in the game increase because the quarterback needs more time to observe the field, these moves restore balance to what could have been a very lopsided battle.

There is also a new game mode added to the Madden 2006 version, called the Superstar Mode. This mode enables you to create a player by choosing the parents, picking an agent, and accepting offers or endorsements. It takes you from draft day all the way to the Super Bowl.

In all, the Madden 2006 version is a great game, especially if you are one of the die-hard Madden fans who own all of them. The overall game play has not changed a great deal since the 2005 version, with exceptions of the Quarterback Vision, but like the old saying goes "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." I give the game a rating of an 8.5 out of a possible 10. Madden still deserves the crown of the number one selling video gaming sports franchise of all-time!



## Local Music Part One

Kris Sachs  
Staff Writer

Through the cloudy haze of smoke and low conversation, a powerful strum of the bass reverberates, quieting the room immediately. Heads turn toward the stage as the lighting comes on and the stage is illuminated in low, colored lights. The lead singer's head is bowed, as are the heads of the other band mates, the low light makes their hair and instruments shimmer. As soon as the room is completely quiet, the band bursts into the passionate melodies of what can only be the blues. Set after set, the band rocks out, never stopping, never tiring. The crowd is entranced at the feeling they put into their music. No one even knows the name of the band...

This is a very common scene at pubs and small music halls all around Kansas City. Not only for the blues but also for all the other great local bands that play jazz, rock 'n roll, alternative, etc. Small bands playing for practically nothing are pouring their hearts out to attentive listeners, trying to get their music out there. For a \$3-5 cover charge, it is possible to see some great bands out there that will never make it big, but should. This is raw talent at its finest...and it's cheapest.

There are a lot of places you can go to see local bands. Most of these small places are unheard of. Not mentioning names, but in some places you can walk in, and get a beer regardless of age, and then order some good food. Many of the people that

come to these shin-digs are pretty cool. Depending on what kind of show you go to, it's usually a pretty relaxed and mellow scene. There aren't throngs of people or mosh pits, just the music, you, and your food. It's also a great way to meet the band and really enjoy the music to the fullest extent.

There are so many bands out there trying to get their music heard, but unfortunately, there is just not enough room to give every band a record deal that deserves one. Not to sound mean, but take advantage of the situation. Keep an ear to the ground about the local music scene. Basement shows, garage show, bar shows, etc. They are everywhere happening all the time; it's a lot better than going to a lame party. Round up a group of friends, especially if



you are going to go somewhere downtown, and go party with the band. It's so small; you probably will end up meeting or even hanging out with the band if you stick around after the show. The band mates are usually really great people and want to talk to you. It's gets them the word of mouth they need.

If you are just hanging out on a Thursday night, you don't have class the next day, and you and your friends are bored to tears, get on out there and scout some bars. Ask around, every night of the week, there is a local band out there, just waiting for your three dollar contribution and your company. Do them, and your ears, a big favor and get out there before they become super famous or fade out of existence.

# Death Cab For Cutie: Make Plans for Your CD Player

Erin Stewart  
A&E Editor

When I climbed back into my car from the store I could hardly wait to tear off the cellophane that encased the new album Plans from Death Cab for Cutie. There was no disappointment flowing from my car speakers, just familiar, yet new sounds, and new songs from the Seattle-based indie-pop quartet.

Plans, the fifth album from Death Cab for Cutie was released on August 30, 2005. Following up the popular 2003 release Transatlanticism, this record has sold over 200,000 copies.

Plans will surely fall into favor with a much larger and broader audience, not just because of their new sound, but also because Plans was the first of Death Cab for Cutie's albums released by Atlantic records. Death Cab had a productive and long relationship with their past label, Barsuk, which is a smaller Seattle-based indie record label.

There are eleven tracks of gentle, melodic, indie rock on this album. Kicking off the album is the upbeat song "Marching Bands of Manhattan," lyrics talk about living spontaneously in the moment. I found myself humming catchy parts of the album's first single "Soul Meets Body" throughout my day.

My personal favorite -- "I Will Follow You into the Dark" -- is an acoustic folk

song with emotional, timeless lyrics about someday losing a close loved one. Frontman Benjamin Gibbard is truly gifted in scripting out details in the band's work. The lyrics "love is watching someone die," from track nine "What Sarah Said" seems to be the hidden underlying theme of this entire album.

As the music from Death Cab matures, so do the members. In the song "Brothers on a Hotel Bed," a piano flows behind Gibbard's soft voice as he sings about getting older and the changes that come with it.

Death Cab for Cutie got their name from a song performed by the Bozo Dog Doo-Dah Band in the Beatles' Magical Mystery Tour. In 1997, Death Cab was formed as a solo project for Gibbard, in the small town of Bellingham in Washington. He soon set out and recruited three other members: Nicholas Harmer, bass, Christopher Walla, guitar, keyboard, and producer of all five albums. Since 1997, Death Cab has replaced drummers, new drummer, Jason McGerr, seems to be getting the job done.

One thing is for sure, Death Cab has come a long way since their first album; and their rapidly increasing fan base shows their success. You won't see Death Cab in Kansas City any time soon, but you can check Ticketmaster or [www.deathcabforcutie.com](http://www.deathcabforcutie.com) for any listed shows in the future.



## Football Team Has A New Approach For Success

Jessica Collins  
Contributing Writer

After a career as an all state full back in Iowa, being named to the Missouri Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame compiling a coaching record of 184-92-1 over 28 years, having a lasting marriage and a successful family, coach Bruce Young decided that Avila University was a good fit for him as the head football coach.

"I retired from teaching after 30 years. I could be doing anything I want right now and I am. I just want to be a football coach," Young said.

Young's passion for the game is very evident to his players.

"He loves the game more than anyone I've ever met," sophomore linebacker Mickey Nolan said.

Young joined the Avila football staff in the spring of 2004 as director of football operations, running back coach, and special team's coordinator. In January of 2005 Young was announced as the head football coach of the Eagles.

"We have a bunch of good kids on this team. We have seniors and younger guys on the team. We have good-hearted seniors who are our leaders. They bought into what we're doing," Young said.

Young feels that his coaching experience from last year has helped ease the transition of a new coaching staff this year.

"It was good for me that I was here a year ago. I had my thoughts on the players and then the new staff gave me their opinions. The transition part of it was great and the players are held accountable," Young said.

"We didn't lose any momentum when the new coaching staff came in. We all took to the changes very well," Nolan said.

The Eagle football team does have a slight advantage over their opponents.

"We have an edge on people because we're a new staff. Other teams do not know what we're going to do," Young said.

As for being held accountable, they are.

"A big thing missing from last year was being held accountable for our actions. This year if you do something wrong you are going to be accountable for whatever it is that you do," Nolan said.

Coach Young compiled a group of players to form the player's council. The player's council consists of a few specially chosen players who discuss anything that the team is concerned with. They are the voice of the team and they hold each other, along with the coaches, accountable.

"Coach Young is all ears to us. He cares so much about his players, his coaching staff

and Avila spirit. He respects everyone and players really listen to him," Nolan said.

Currently the Eagles are 0-3, but they are optimistic about their future with Coach Young's leadership.

"Coach Young pays attention to details. If something isn't done right he'll make sure we do it until it is done correctly. He (Coach Young) has the ability to motivate and make sure everything is perfect," Nolan said.

Young has a positive outlook on what his program can accomplish this year with a crew of young players.

"We are young and we can respond to adversity well," Young said.

In the first game of the season 41 football players stepped out on the field and 21 of those players were playing in their first college football game.

"We just need to keep going and going and executing. We're getting better each game," Nolan said.

Young believes that his team will also have small success in each and every football game.

"Our guys play hard and can get the job done," Young said.

Young not only wants his players to succeed on the field but also in the classroom.

"Our success is when a player graduates and gets his degree. Your degree will be with you for the rest of your life. Weather the score of the game is 38-7 or 7-6 my players better be in class," Young said.

In the world of sports many times the sole concentration is winning. Teams measure their success in wins to loss's ratios, but Coach Young is a rare coach whose success is not only measured in winning.

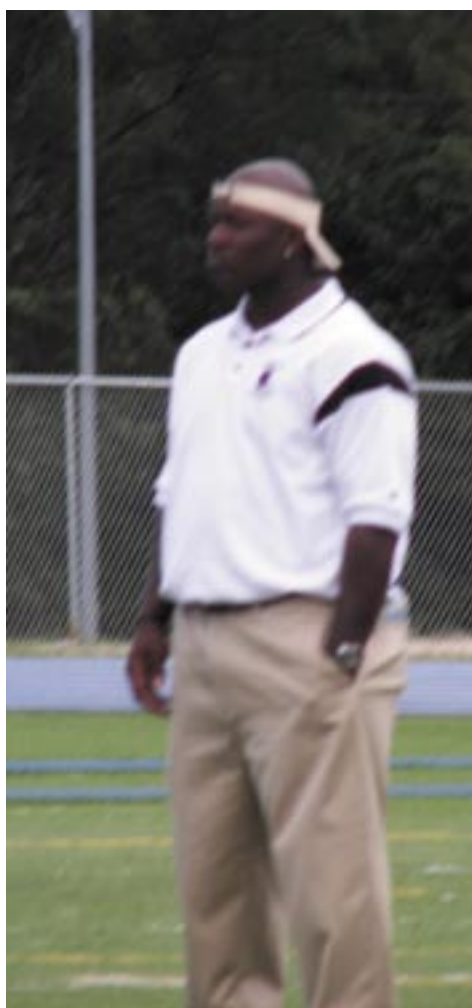
"Losing is unacceptable and we are here to win, but more importantly the players are here to get their degrees. I want to teach them what the real world is about," Young said.

Young plans to uplift his program with solid recruiting, retention of players, and players receiving their degrees.

"Coach Young is very big on academics. He tells us that we need everyone back and that the only way we can do that is by making the grades. If you miss class, he's going to know," Nolan said.

With the 2005 season underway and Coach Young leading the Eagles, the football team is in good hands.

"Coach Young is a caring, honorable and respectful person who demands the best out of everyone. We're coming along and it's just a matter of time before we turn the corner," Nolan said.



Former Chief Kimble Anders is a new addition to the Avila Football Staff. Photo by Greg Mittlesteadt

## Volleyball Turns Around

Megan Carnes  
Staff Writer

Avila women's volleyball team has developed a trend of defeat. Each new season has brought expectations for change. Players, as well as spectators, anticipate each year in hope that winning will be on the team's agenda and with Coach Wagner coming back for his second year, that is exactly what fans are anticipating. All of the additions made this year have assured that this will be the season for a turn around.

"I am sad that this is my last year playing because I see what a great future this team has and I only have good feelings on what we will accomplish together in the end," stated senior Jessica Fiebrich.

Each player has voiced their confidence in the team through all of their hard work over the past two years. They have adjusted to a new coaching staff and have been open to the new faces of experience each year. Each player's game was drastically changed when Coach Wagner stepped in to revamp the program. He brought a new system of play that has benefited the team greatly.

"I know when I am through playing here at Avila I will hate the word 'system' but if

it wasn't for this concept I don't think the team would look as smooth and have taken such large steps forward in advancing the level of play," sophomore Lauren Miller said.

It is not only the way the team plays, but it is outside changes that have started to make this program worth more than just another sport Avila has to offer. With Wagner not only came an abundance of experience, but dedication and belief. He wanted the team to look and feel its best. There will be new jerseys worn on the court this year along with new warm ups and gear. The latest and most exciting addition is the newly renovated locker room. It now has new carpet, huge lockers, a stereo, fans, a television and more.

"Walking into the locker room I finally feel like I play for a university that respects my hard work and is willing to reward me with the nice things needed to feel like I play at the college level. It has added so much spirit to the team," Junior Beth Laughry said.

All of this work doesn't come easily and fundraising has been a major component in the ability to acquire all of the new items. Each team member will be serving an extra two hundred balls on their own

time to raise money. This is just one example of the many the team has planned to accomplish this season.

Coach has also brought two managers to help run practice and keep stats. The stats are kept all on computer, which results in faster feedback for the staff and players. The managers are just as important as any player on the team and help keep the practices ran smoothly.

"Knowing where I stand after each practice and game has really put the standard high. One day I might be last in passing and the next day you can bet I will be busting my butt to be number one. They don't let us get away with a thing," Junior Jessica Horine said.

All of these components are just a sample of what the women's volleyball team has strived for in the last two years. They have already won more games than they had last year at this time. They look crisper and play with more desire. They are sitting in conference as the number one passing team and can only get better. With all of the effort in practice and intensity brought to games one can only be confident in the total turnaround this team with bring to the women's volleyball program.



# Who's It Gonna Be?

Lauren McCarthy  
A-life Editor

Quarterback. An offensive back in football who usually lines up behind the center, calls the signals, and directs the offensive play of the team; one who directs and leads. This requires experience, confidence and maturity. Or does it? Red Shirt freshman Chadd Rivera might not hold the ingredients found in most quarterbacks, but what he does hold might just be enough.

On the other hand, fifth year senior, Brandon Allen has the knowledge and familiarity of this position. He has been playing quarterback since the age of six.

"Realistically, it's a week by week thing,"



Both Allen and Rivera feel confident in themselves and in one another.

"He's young. He needs to get the experience," Allen said. "We compliment each other really well."

Both agree that it can't be done alone. It's far too risky to rely on one person to run the team. There always needs to be back up.

"We can't do it by ourselves," Allen said. "But together we can win some games."

Rivera says that Allen is by far the smartest player he's ever met. "He studies the game and knows the defense," Rivera said.

Besides a passion for football, both Chadd and Brandon were born and raised in the Sunshine State. Rivera hails from Naples, Florida and Allen from Plantation, Florida.

"I guess it's something in the water down there," Rivera said.

As the year continues and the games come and go, the quarterback position remains up in the air. Old vs. young, experienced vs. inexperienced, intelligence vs. talent, thrower vs. runner. The answer stays the same until next kickoff.

Offensive line coach, Kevin Gundy said. "Both kids are in our plans equally and have been from the start."

The Avila Football program is new and young -- new coaches, new players, and new attitude equals new outcome.

"We're young! Nine out of eleven kids have never played a snap of college football," Gundy said.

As coaches always say, practice makes perfect. Or is it, perfect practice makes perfect? Being such a young team, the chance for improvement and growth is excellent.

"We plan to progress as a young team," Rivera said. "We will be better by the end of things and surprise a lot of teams in our conference."

The only question that remains is, who will take us there? Does the direction of the team lie in the hands of a virgin quarterback? Or does it fall into the grips of a near-retired senior?

"Each player has his pluses and minuses," Gundy said.





## High Hopes For Men's Soccer Team

Zac Choate  
Staff Writer

Another losing season is not an option for the 2005 Avila University Men's Soccer team. Great additions to the soccer team will create a turn around this year.

It's been a whole new look for the team with the addition of many new recruits, but the team is in high spirits after a disappointing 2004 season. Finishing the season 3-15 was a huge disappointment for a team filled with so much talent. Competing in what is considered to be the

1990's were. The Avila soccer program captured 2 District championships and finished 4<sup>th</sup> at the NAIA National Tournament during that span and the Eagles were considered one of the top NAIA soccer programs in the country.

With the returnees and the addition of talented freshmen, speed, and overall great soccer players, the program is definitely seeking a winning season. Anything less would be another disappointment.

## Women's Soccer Team Has High Hopes As Well

Zac Choate  
Staff Writer

The Avila women's soccer team hopes to be one of the top teams in the Heart of America Conference this year. They are coming off a good 2004 season with a record of 9-9, while at one point in the season they were ranked as high as 4<sup>th</sup> in the region.

The team is looking forward to progress once again, while having high expectations and many goals. One of the goals they

want to pursue is have a winning season and also be regionally ranked.

Avila returns 9 starters this year with a highly recruited class of new faces. Every player has the ability to bring something to the program.

"The team has really bonded and come together. Our expectations are very high, and with every practice and game we just become better," First-Year Defender Lisa Burks said.

All of the starters bring experience, creativity, and knowledge. They are looking to expand on last year's season and become a force to be reckoned with. Packed with talented players, the team looks to provide excitement during the season.

"We know what we have out there. We just need to execute on the field, and if we do that we will have a successful season, no doubt in my mind," Junior Forward Ashley Poore said.

Not to mention the team is filled with great soccer players, they are also filled with great students. The women's team has a reputation off the playing field as well.

During the last two seasons they have received the Dr. Fred Geer Academic Cup. The "Geer Cup" is presented each year to the team that has the top grade point average in the Avila Athletic Department. During those two years, the women's soccer team posted a 3.45 GPA. As you can see, the women's team is determined on and off the field to have a spectacular season.

With expectations on and off the field, the women's soccer team wants to create a buzz around the Heart of America athletic Conference this year.



toughest conference across the country does not help either.

"It was really hard last year watching the season unfold as it did, but injuries definitely took a toll on us late in the season. Not having depth or numbers had an effect on the win/loss column for sure," forward Bryan Evans said.

With 17 newcomers and 11 returnees, there is definitely a sense of competition between each player. Everyone on the team is fighting for a spot on the field day. Midfielder Danny Solana is really looking forward to the excitement of the season.

"Every one of the returnees and recruits are on the same page. We are starting to play together as a team and that is the most important factor in winning," Solana said.

Avila has improved drastically over the last few months, training very hard to be as dominant as the teams in the 1980's and





# NCAA Bans “Abusive Or Hostile” Nicknames

Josh Nolen  
Sports Editor

On August 4, 2005 the NCAA banned the use of American Indian mascots for college sports teams from postseason tournaments because the nicknames were deemed “hostile or abusive”.

These nicknames or mascots are not allowed on the team uniforms or clothing during such tournaments as the NCAA Final Four Basketball tournament and College World series for baseball. Major college football teams in NCAA Division I-A do not have to follow the new rules because there is currently no tournament or playoff system for college football.

In 2008, these logos will be prohibited on band and cheerleader uniforms at postseason events.

The Florida State Seminoles, Illinois Fighting Illini, and the Utah Utes are three of the 18 schools whose mascots have been deemed “hostile or abusive”.

The University of North Carolina-Pembroke Braves has a tradition of enrolling Native American students so the NCAA made an exception for them.

“I think this is ridiculous. I think each school should be allowed to keep their nicknames if they have permission or don’t disrespect the Indian tribes,” Senior Clint Honeycutt said.

Schools on the list have the opportunity to appeal the ban by February 1 or they will then have to abide by the new rule.

This ruling is not going to affect Florida State’s pregame football ritual. Before each home football a student dressed like Chief

Osceola rides a spotted horse to the center of the field and throws a flaming spear into the turf.

Florida State took legal action against this ruling because the school says it has



the permission of the Seminole Tribe of Florida to use the nickname and tribal images.

“I would understand if teams were using these nicknames in a disrespectful manner but they are not,” senior Kevin Gray said.

Two years ago the NCAA told school officials to determine for themselves whether or not the Indian-related mascots or nicknames were offensive.

Stanford University changed their mascot from the Indians to the Cardinals thirty years ago. In recent years St. John’s University and Marquette changed their nicknames because of these concerns.

Sports Illustrated published a survey of American Indians living on and off reservations in 2002. More than eight in 10 American Indians approved the use of Indian names and mascots for college and professional teams.

In the past 10 years professional sports teams like the Kansas City Chiefs, Cleveland Indians, and the Atlanta Braves had their mascots and rituals questioned. Their nicknames and forearm chops were considered “abusive and hostile” to respected Indian tribes.

“I remember when the Chiefs were fighting for the use of their nickname, I thought it was stupid to take a team’s nickname away after the team has had it for thirty or more years. It is their tradition,” Gray said.

What is next for the NCAA? Are they going to force every school to change their nickname or are they going to ban all collegiate sports teams from postseason play?

## SPORTS Play Ball OCTOBER

### FOOTBALL

10/1 Missouri Valley 1:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Kansas City, MO---Rockhurst H.S.  
10/8 Mid-America Nazarene 1:30<sub>pm</sub>  
Olathe, KS  
10/22 Baker 1:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Kansas City, MO---Rockhurst H.S.  
10/29 Culver-Stockton 1:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Canton, MO

### WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL

9/30 Homecoming Alumni Match 7:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/4 William Jewell 7:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Liberty, MO  
10/11 Baker University 7:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/14 Culver-Stockton 7:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/15 Central Methodist 4:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Fayette, MO  
10/18 Haskell Indians Nations 7:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/22 Evangel University 4:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/25 Lindenwood University 7:00<sub>pm</sub>  
St. Charles, MO  
10/28-29 St. Ambrose Tournament TBA  
Davenport, IA

### WOMEN’S SOCCER

10/2 Lindenwood 1:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/4 Benedictine 2:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/8 Missouri Valley 1:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Marshall, MO  
10/12 Baker 2:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/15 Graceland 5:30<sub>pm</sub>  
Lamonia, IA  
10/17 Tabor 2:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/20 Bellevue 4:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Bellevue, NE  
10/22 Oklahoma Wesleyan 1:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/25 Mid-America Nazarene 1:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/29 Culver-Stockton 10:00<sub>am</sub>  
Canton, MO

### MEN’S SOCCER

10/2 Lindenwood 3:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/4 Benedictine 4:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/8 Missouri Valley 3:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Marshall, MO  
10/12 Baker 4:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/15 Graceland 7:30<sub>pm</sub>  
Lamonia, IA  
10/17 Tabor 4:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/22 Oklahoma Wesleyan 11:00<sub>am</sub>  
Avila University  
10/25 Mid-America Nazarene 3:00<sub>pm</sub>  
Avila University  
10/29 Culver-Stockton 12:00<sub>am(Noon)</sub>  
Canton, MO

## Adidas and Reebok Merge Together For a Sure Fix

Chadd Rivera  
Staff Writer

It’s official -- the number two and three companies in the shoe market have merged together in attempt to knock off the reigning king.

On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005, Adidas and Reebok announced they are now one and the same after Adidas purchased Reebok for \$3.78 billion. The two companies together grossed \$12.4 billion in sales and brought in a reported \$632 million in profit, which doesn’t quite reach the \$13.7 billion in sales and \$1 billion profit that Nike has reigned in this year, but makes a significant dent.

Although the Adidas and Reebok combined together still sit behind Nike in



sales, they have a bright future ahead. Both companies bring a certain level of expertise to the table. Reebok brings a line of mid-range, star-powered shoes -- the S. Carter and 50 cent shoe series -- along with their line of Reebok classics. Adidas is the leader in the soccer market and feature the most technically advanced shoe -- the Adidas 1

-- the most talked about and sought after shoe of 2005.

In the August 2005 edition of Business Week Online, Jim Davis, CEO of New Balance, said “it will be tough for retailers dealing with a new pumped-up Nike competitor. Adidas will have more leverage, but it will not make Nike any easier to compete against.”

Although it seems like this merger is a perfect fit for the new, more powerful Adidas, there is still a tough path to tread. Nike is still number one it doesn’t look like they have plans for change in the near future.

So it looks like the race is on between the newly revamped Adidas and the powerhouse of Nike. Only time will tell if the shoe fits for Adidas.





## The Idiosyncratic Routine of a Girl Named George: An Introduction

George Thorman  
Talon Columnist

It's difficult being a girl named George, but I think it's more difficult being a twenty-something. In our youth we are categorized as being foolhardy, misguided, and directionless. The worst part about that stereotype is that I can't quite bring myself to disagree.

Being a twenty-something is filled with doubts, idiotic mistakes, really bad relationships, and annoying professors. But it can also be filled with great friends, decent relationships, large quantities of alcohol, and some of the best days of your life.

I had spent the last year having terrible relationships, great friends, great parties, and there was always a case of Boulevard Wheat in my fridge, even if that meant I had to go without food for a couple of days. Everything was going pretty well, but I was still dissatisfied. So when the call came from one of my best friends, Roman, to spend the rest of year in Italy with him, I jumped at the opportunity. A four month, all paid vacation to the Italian countryside where there was a BMW and an eight thousand square foot house waiting for me, how could I say no?

This, of course, is where the idiotic mistakes part comes in. When Roman said, "Come to Italy", I thought he meant vacation. What he actually meant was "Move to Italy and marry me." Whoops.

People tell me that I am too young to be cynical, but I think that after a certain amount of life experience I've earned the right. I don't see myself as a pessimist. I think I'm a realist and no one else wants to hear the truth. Maybe I'm wrong about that, too. All I'm certain of anymore is that I'm the kind of person who doesn't pull any punches.

I know who I am and I know what I want. It's the how to get it part that trips me up. I tend to be a little hapless and clumsy. In awkward situations I find myself having a very serious case of verbal diarrhea. I smoke too much. Sometimes I drink too much. I've spent the last year looking for a good man. When I found a good man, I realized he wasn't the right man. So I left Italy and came back to the States after only six weeks.

So now I'm out looking for the right man, whoever he may be. Along the way I have every intention of writing up a storm, drinking until I have to stop, and smoking until my throat starts to hurt. Of course, I plan on taking my gal pals along for the wild ride that is the idiosyncratic routine of a girl named George.

## Max Rants: Avila Stuck In The Past

Max Thompson  
Editor In Chief – Features

I understood a lot of things and the reasons behind them in high school. Homecoming, for example, seemed to make sense back then. I don't think I've ever heard of a high school without a homecoming. Countless movies, books, tv shows, and stories in general have been devoted to or included this long-standing American tradition. My high school even had courtwarming, a second homecoming during basketball season. I'm sure the only motivation behind this was to make sure twice as many kids could be spotlighted as "popular." This brought ten or more people out of the mass of students into the spotlight. If only they could have had 38 more "warmings" to make the rest of my student body feel special in some way.

Homecoming obviously doesn't make sense to me anymore in any way. It's like a miniature, less involved Mr. and Miss America pageant. It drives me to envision two media-manipulated little girls dreaming of winning a pageant of some sort, and how everyone will love them for it. What a great

way to rear children, right? It doesn't make sense to pervade children's minds with the notion of winning popularity contests, so I fail to understand why it's necessary that we continue to encourage the popularity contest at Avila.

One of my good friends was nominated as a king candidate. Immediately confused he began turning to his friends asking, "Which one of you did it?" Even if I didn't have a problem with the concept of homecoming, I would have a problem with the way ours is put together. We were nominating candidates? That swept through the campus like wildfire, didn't it? I would venture to guess that maybe ten percent of the student body knew about the nominations, if that. My friend then confronted me, clearly unhappy with the implications, "You (expletive)! Did you nominate me? I asked everyone who would do such a stupid thing to me, and they guessed it was you." I declined, but realized if I had known about the nominations I clearly would have nominated him just to make him feel stupid. And that's the other problem, it's not a celebration, it's a joke.

The dance is a completely different animal. Odds are it will be the spring fling

dance revisited, and in case you didn't get my feelings on that, visit beyond the page at [www.avila.edu/talon](http://www.avila.edu/talon). To sum it up, it will be a chance for students to get drunk, drive to the dance, eat some food, and then move the party elsewhere. Let's get back to the "royal court."

You could say it gives some people that last chance for the spotlight, however small it may be. I say why do we bother continuing the tradition of making an example of fellow students? It says to the student body, consciously or unconsciously, "These people are loved by many others, this is what you should aspire to be." Anyone who argues that the contest does otherwise needs to take some refresher courses that are taught in this very university. I don't know about everybody else, but I'm fine being myself. Classes like Women & Media, Mass Media & Society, and Communication Theory raise awareness among students about image shaping in American society. The problem is that Avila teaches its students in the classroom to encourage diversity and break traditional stereotypes, yet during homecoming Avila will put all that work to waste when it tries to be just like everybody else.

## Happiness/Contentment

Brittany Strelluf  
Contributing Writer

College. For everyone involved, it is a unique experience. It doesn't matter what school you choose, what your major is, or if you are a traditional student returning as an adult, one cannot enter college and come out the same person. This is an experience, like life, that can be checkered with changes, failures and triumphs. In dealing with the struggles of homesickness, financial difficulties, sports, time constraints, activities, grades, and work, it can be very hard to keep a steady smile. So how does one go about keeping it all together? How can one make sure that you leave college a better person than when you went in?

It is all about your mindset. In the book, The Myth of Sisyphus, author Albert Camut retells the legend of a man damned to spend eternity pushing a giant rock up a hill, which will, as soon as he reaches the top, roll back down. Every time it rolls down, he must trudge to the bottom and begin his task all over again. This story is used as a metaphor for the human condition, which he sees as a struggle with overwhelming forces. One day Sisyphus realizes that every time he pushes the rock up the hill, it will roll back down. He accepts this and begins to find happiness in his existence. He can enjoy the sun on his face and the strain on his muscles, and suddenly the gods' horrible punishment is rendered a joy. By simply changing his mindset, Sisyphus has overpowered the gods and become his own master. He

doesn't give up reaching his goals, but he finds happiness in the journey. John Milton wrote in Paradise Lost "The mind is it's own place and itself can make a heaven of hell, or a hell of heaven." We choose to make a heaven of our own place.

This is a very good theory on paper, but can it really be applied to real life? Two of the largest and certainly the oldest world religions Hinduism and Buddhism are centered on the idea that to find joy in life, one must be content within their souls and minds. Buddhist monks who practice meditation to achieve inner peace they call enlightenment. Their way of life helps them also to enhance their senses. So not only do these monks find contentment with their lives, they heighten their ability to enjoy the world around them.

*continued on [www.thetalon-online.com](http://www.thetalon-online.com)*

## Lack of Security

Chadd Rivera  
Staff Writer

Over the span of the last month here at Avila, there have been a series of car break-ins. At the time this article was written, nine cars have been broken into with an estimated value of \$1,800 stolen.

Where is the security? Avila does have campus security on campus 24-hours a day, however the budget only allows for one person to be on duty at a time, making it nearly impossible to protect a whole campus at once. After talking to Bob Creech, the Director of Public Safety, I found that there will be no change in terms of extra security on campus until the next budget year, which starts January 1st of next year.

With no changes, how will we be safe? Creech has informed me that they are looking into the matter -- trying to pull money from other departments in attempt to install security cameras throughout campus. This move will help in the long run, but it may be too little too late for the time being.

I talked to a few victims from these events and have heard that they may start taking matters into their own hands. One student is starting a petition for increased security; another student however, said



that they might just handle the situation in a physical manner.

Steps need to be made for the safety of our students. Waiting until January maybe the realization of the matter but it may not

be the best way to go about it. If you ask most of the students they would rather have their cars and lives in safe hands rather than have landscape alteration and new computer monitors. Maybe if there were less flat screens, there would be more guards. Whatever the reasons for this problem, it needs to be fixed.



Motorola Challenges College Students to Imagine the Future of Seamless Mobility

Sept. 6, 2005--Imagine your car contacting the mechanic directly to schedule its next oil change or downloading a music video from your car stereo to watch on a conference call with a friend across the globe.

Is this the future of mobile communications? You tell us.

To help visualize the next generation of seamless mobility, Motorola, Inc. today launched MOTOFRD, a nationwide competition challenging emerging innovators to depict -- either through words or visuals -- how tomorrow's society will answer the consumer demand to live life wherever, whenever and however. Seamless mobility is a set of solutions that will provide easy, uninterrupted access to information, entertainment, communication, monitoring and control when, where and how we want, regardless of the device, service, network or location.

Entries will be judged by a panel of today's most creative and forward-thinking minds, including youth culture expert and trend researcher Dee Dee Gordon, and futurist and award-winning sci-fi author Cory Doctorow, among others.

College students focusing on science, technology, engineering, writing, film and other arts and science fields can submit visual art or written entries, including essays, white papers, short stories, short films, comic strips or digital art to express their view of seamless mobility and bring the next wave of mobile connectivity to life.

## Prizes

### 1 GRAND PRIZE:

\$10,000 cash scholarship  
Eight-week apprenticeship opportunity at Motorola  
Bluetooth-enabled car  
Motorola product package

### 3 RUNNER UP PRIZES:

\$2,500 cash scholarship  
Motorola product package

### 1 MY MOTOCHOICE AWARD:

\$2,500 cash scholarship  
Motorola product package

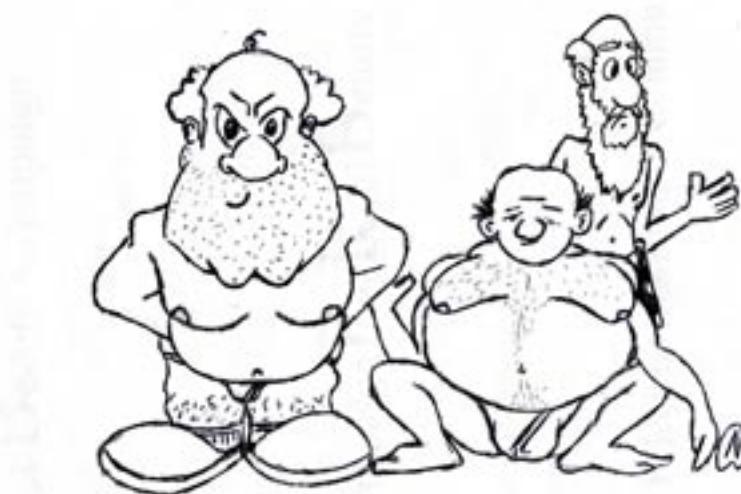
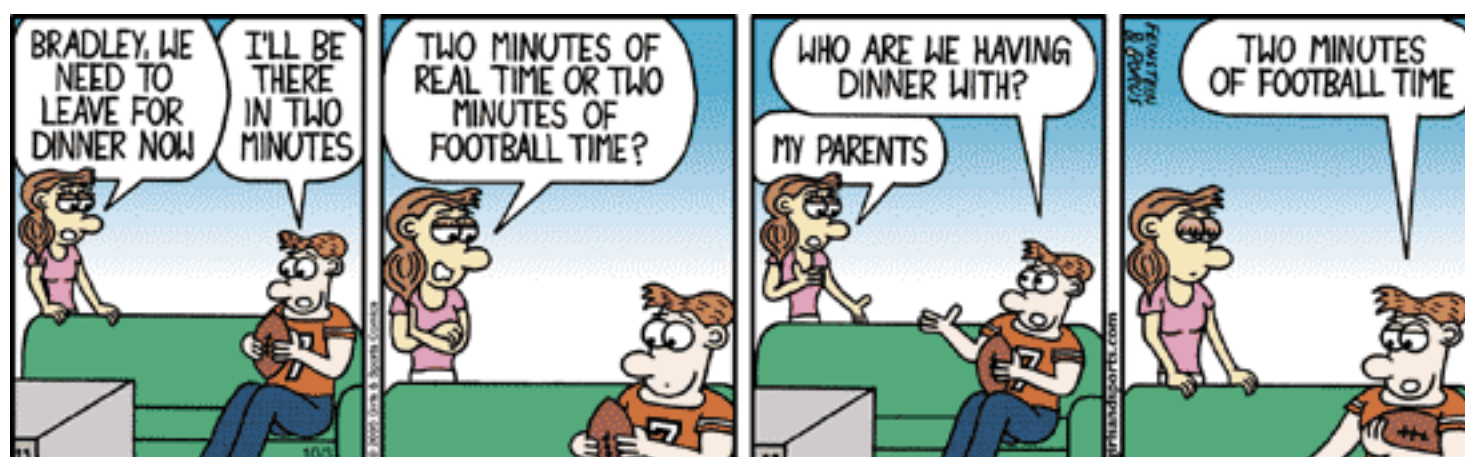
For Contest Information check out the Talon Online:

[www.thetalon-online.com](http://www.thetalon-online.com)

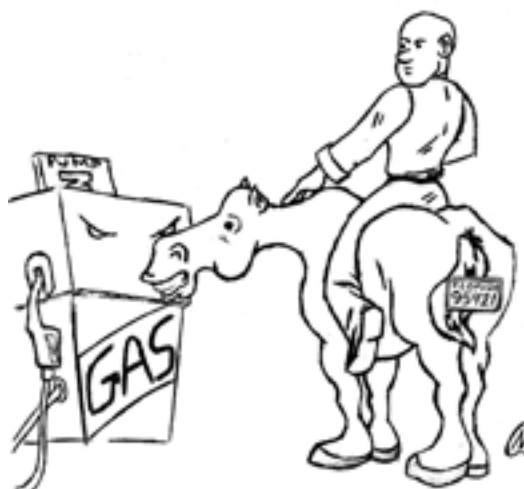
## Contest Details

Entries are being accepted on [www.motorola.com/motofwrld](http://www.motorola.com/motofwrld) from September 1 through November 15, 2005. Submissions can be made in the following formats:

- Essay, short story or white paper of up to 1,500 words
- Short film or animation of up to five minutes
- Digital art, including graphics, images and schematics of up to ten panes
- Comic strips of up to 20 panes



## Campaign for Real Beauty



## Liars Anonymous



# HOMECOMING ROX MY SOX OFF!

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- 11:00 a.m. – Noon **Avila Heritage Mass** – Orscheln Chapel, Foyle Hall
- 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Avila Heritage Luncheon** – Whitfield Centre  
*Honoring Heritage Club members and 50+ year graduates. All alumni and friends are welcome.*
- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **College of St. Teresa Reunion Reception**  
– Zahner Lounge, Donnelly Building, St. Teresa's Academy
- 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Thornhill Art Gallery Opening** – Thornhill Gallery
- 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Tradition of Excellence in Nursing Reception**  
– Nursing Learning Resource Center, Borserine Building
- 6:30/8:00 p.m. **Dinner Theatre Production of First Lady Suite**  
– Goppert Theatre **Cost: \$27.50**
- 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **EAGLE MADNESS** – Mabey Fieldhouse  
5:00 p.m. **Carnival and Picnic**  
7:00 p.m. **Avila Alumni Volleyball Match**  
7:30 p.m. **Avila Athletics Pep Rally**

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

- 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Tailgate Party** – Rockhurst High School **Cost: \$5**
- 11:00 a.m. **Fred Geer 30th Anniversary Reception**  
– Alumni Lounge, Marian Centre
- 1:00 p.m. **Homecoming Football Game** – Rockhurst High School  
*Avila Eagles v. Missouri Valley Vikings*
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Honored Class Reception** – Alumni Lounge, Marian Centre  
*Honoring Class of 1955, 1965, 1980, 1995, 2000, 2005 and 50+ year graduates*
- 6:30/8:00 p.m. **Alumni Night at the Theatre** – Goppert Theatre  
*Spend an evening with some of our most memorable first ladies when you enjoy the fun, musical comedy, First Lady Suite. A specially prepared gourmet meal will precede the show. Space is limited, so reserve your space early. Cost: \$27.50*
- 8:00 p.m. – Midnight **Student-Sponsored All-University Dance** – Quad

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

- 11:00 a.m. – Noon **Alumni Mass** – Orscheln Chapel, Foyle Hall
- Noon **Alumni Association Recognition Ceremony & Lunch**  
– Whitfield Centre  
*All are welcome to celebrate the achievements of their fellow alumni.*
- 1:00 p.m. **Women's Soccer Game** – Soccer Field  
*Avila Eagles v. Lindenwood Lions*
- 2:00 p.m. **Theatre Production of First Lady Suite**  
– Goppert Theatre
- 3:00 p.m. **Men's Soccer Game**  
– Soccer Field  
*Avila Eagles v. Lindenwood Lions*

For more information, call 816-501-3780

Show off your Eagle Force in pictures. Send us your most interesting pictures from the homecoming weekend and we will post them to the talon web site. PLUS, our panel of judges will pick the best photo that embodies the eagle spirit and you could win your choice off: laptop bag, leather backpack, computer accessories. Photos must be received by October 10th. Please send them as Jpeg to talon-news-network@excite.com (all photos will become the property of the talon and you will not receive compensation of any kind. Thank you and have a great day.)



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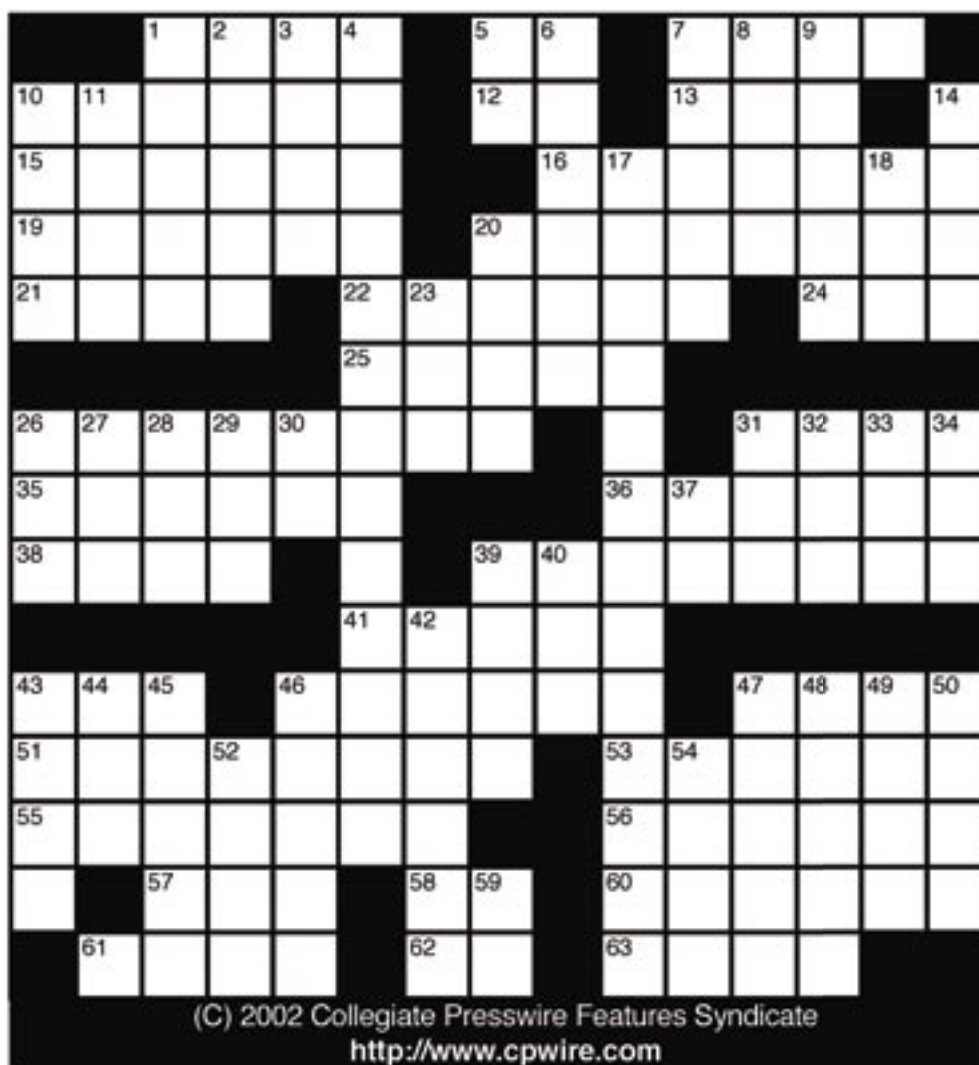
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\*Program Guidelines Apply.





## ACROSS

1. Before the storm
5. "She'll be there \_\_\_\_ 3 p.m."
7. Seven year \_\_\_\_
10. Lassie
12. Opposite of Yes
13. There are seven
15. Begone! (Imperative verb)
16. Mentally exhausted
19. State next to California
20. Without people
21. A ballerina dances here
22. Madman
24. Wily
25. Long ago times
26. Hair color
31. Rose \_\_\_\_
35. The highest point
36. Spain and Portugal
38. To neaten
39. The conscience
41. Carmen, e.g.
43. Baha
46. Obliquely
47. Tibetan priest
51. Unwholesome
53. "In the same book"
55. A clam
56. Overly showy
57. A tide
58. Present indicative of he
60. Prods
61. A major star
62. Hair style
63. Eye ailment



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<http://www.cpwire.com>

## DOWN

1. Piece of garlic
2. False name
3. Opera singer Jerry
4. Change from one stage to another
5. Actinon chemical symbol
6. One not living on campus
7. Managing Editor of "Sports Night"
8. Sea bird
9. Percentages of Irish farm crops
10. Whining speech
11. Nabisco cookie
14. Whirl
17. States of being free
18. Elongated fish
20. One puts this on first
23. Malt beverage
26. Hotel parent company
27. "Learn it to"
28. Roman Goddess of plenty
29. A degree
30. Pass this and get \$200
31. Female
32. Rage
33. Young swine
34. Portuguese saint
37. To occupy a space
39. A stamp
40. Where ashes lie
42. A NY lake
43. Military supplies
44. A people of Northern Thailand
45. Sicker
46. Island in the New Indies
47. A 30's dance
48. A traditional saying
49. Allot
50. Singing brothers
52. Priestly garments
54. After shave brand



A winner has been announced! the photo contest winner for the 2005 summer issue was Sr. Elaine Besand. Thank you for participating!



What is it? Where is it?  
 In case you haven't noticed, this is an excellent opportunity for you, the reader to win something, JUST FOR READING THE TALON! An Impact 256mb flashdrive awaits the sleuth that comes up with the answer.  
 Here is your clue:  
 Views from on high.





Loretta Clarke, of Washington, stands at Arlington National Cemetery before the funeral of 111 year-old 1st Sgt. Mark Matthews, one the last members of the Buffalo Soldiers, on Monday, Sept. 19, 2005 in Arlington, Va. Clarke is dressed in the period dress uniforms of the Buffalo Soldiers. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

## **In The Next Issue:**

Horror Haunts Our Minds

Haunted Houses Scare Up Kansas City

The Blood Brothers Make Noise in Lawrence

Hockey's Back - Who Cares?